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that we have continued discovering fresh mare's nests at intervals of about a month, to use the *Chinese Times'* words, and to have succeeded in preventing the signing of the convention for over two years can hardly be characterised as "trifling." Although the actual terms of the convention have never seen the light, its object is perfectly well known. By connecting their lines with the Russian service at Kiachta and with the English service on the Yünnan frontier, the Chinese telegraph service would put themselves in a favourable position to compete with the cable companies. When the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension Companies were competing against each other we had a moderate tariff. They joined forces and put up the rate to \$2 a word from Shanghai, and the object of the convention is to keep the rate at \$2 for a long term of years, and they have persuaded Shêng Taotai to agree to this, by offering his company a subsidy, estimated at \$100,000 a year. That \$100,000 is to come, of course, out of the pockets of those who use the cables. If our contemporary is honest in saying that it does not see the importance of this convention to the mercantile community, we can but wonder what is the cause of this special blindness.

We were glad to notice recently in the Hongkong papers that a statement of the case against the convention was being prepared for the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce to be sent home. It is at home now that the work has to be done. Sir John Pender has managed hitherto to get the ear of the Foreign Office, and on his representations Sir John Walsham has been unfortunately instructed to support the Eastern Extension Company, as M. Coumany was instructed to support the Great Northern Company. If Lord Salisbury can be got to understand the injury that the Convention will do to English commerce, and will instruct Sir John Walsham to withdraw his protection from the monopolists, and work with his American, German, Japanese, and Spanish colleagues, the Convention will really be "dead as a door-nail," for this change would have a very weighty effect on the minds of the Chinese ministers. It is not at all certain that the Eastern Extension Company would be materially injured if the convention were finally upset, and the Chinese left to develop their telegraphic system freely without any restrictions. A reduction in the tariff would undoubtedly increase the Company's business, and it has always the local traffic of the Straits Settlements and Australia to fall back upon. It must be remembered that the opponents of the convention cannot afford to sleep on the success that has attended them so far, for the cable companies and Shêng Taotai are not asleep, and the Tsung-li Yamên may yield at last to importunity, as there is no one in it who understands the question since the Marquis Tsêng died.

Summary of News.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Thames*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

RESULT OF THE 2,000 GUINEAS.

London, 1st May.

Mr. A. W. Merry's *Surefoot* 1

Baron de Rothschild's *Le Nord* 2

The Duke of Westminster's *Blue-green* 3

Surefoot, brown colt, by *Wisdom*, dam by *Galopin*, out of *Miss Foote*, won the Woodcote Stakes of 1,000 sovs. at the Epsom Summer Meeting, ran second to *Semolina* in the Ascot Biennial Stakes, won the New Stakes of 10 sovs. each (£1,241) at Ascot, and the Findon Stakes of 10 sovs. each (£220) at Goodwood.

Le Nord, chestnut colt, by *Tristan* out of *La Noce* (bred in France), won the Knighton Plate of 600 sovs. at Leicester, and the Molecomb Stakes at Goodwood, ran second to *Riviera* in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, walked over for the Hopeful Stakes at the Newmarket First October Meeting, ran second to *Signorina* in the Middle Park Plate at the Second October Meeting, and won the Dewhurst Plate at the Houghton Meeting.

Blue-green, brown colt by *Ceruleus* out of *Angelica*, was unplaced in his first race, ran third to *Riviera* in the Hurstbourne Stakes at Stockbridge, and second to *Margarine* in the Prince of Wales's Plate at York, and won the Criterion Stakes and ran a dead heat for first with *Vermillon* in the Houghton Stakes, at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting.

THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER BILL.

The House of Commons read a second time the Bill for Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister.

THE STRUGGLE FOR AFRICA.

Treaties have been concluded with the King and other chiefs placing Uganda under the influence of the British Company.

THE WORKING-MAN'S IDEAL.

London, 5th May.

Strikes in favour of the eight-hour movement are extending in Europe and America.

GERMANY IN AFRICA.

A Government bill has been introduced in the Reichstag for a credit of 4,500,000 marks for Colonel Wissmann's expedition.

MR. GOSCHEN'S SURPLUS.

London, 18th April.

The Budget surplus amounts to £3,221,000, and Mr. Goschen proposes to reduce the duty on tea twopence, on beer threepence, and the postage to India and the Colonies to twopence-halfpenny, provided others interested agree.

The duty on gold and silver plate to be abolished, and that on spirits raised sixpence a gallon.

PORTUGAL AND ENGLAND.

London, 21st April.

The King of Portugal in the course of a speech expressed a hope that the negotiations now proceeding with Great Britain would result honourably to both nations.—*Singapore papers.*

FRANCE.

Paris, 17th April.

Despatches from Senegal announce the occupation of the capital of the kingdom of Ohmadon (? Dahomey) by the French troops, which will considerably influence the development of the Soudan.

PRESIDENT CARNOT.

22nd April.

The President has been enthusiastically received everywhere. The Italian squadron saluted him at Toulon, the Admiral presenting an autograph letter from the King of Italy. M. Carnot left Marseilles in the iron-clad *Formidable*, and has arrived at Corsica, attended by the French fleet.—*Courrier d'Haiphong.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1890.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
May 2	50° 0	52° 6	...	0.92
" 3	51° 0	60° 0	...	0.01
" 4	56° 2	61° 7	...	0.07
" 5	49° 5	73° 4	...	.....
" 6	53° 0	77° 3	...	.....
" 7	58° 0	77° 8	...	.....
" 8	57° 2	69° 0	...	.....

1889.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
May 2	53° 8	64° 0	...	.....
" 3	56° 5	61° 0	...	1.00
" 4	55° 0	61° 5	...	0.01
" 5	54° 0	60° 6	...	.....
" 6	54° 0	67° 4	...	0.04
" 7	55° 5	71° 2	...	0.14
" 8	52° 0	69° 6	...	.....

At 10 a.m. May 2nd the Sicauei report read as follows:—The rising of the barometer in the south was very light with variable winds in the channel and moderate gale from E. at Hongkong. (No telegram from Manila). From the gale at Hongkong it is understood that the low barometric pressure reported to be S.E. of Luzon following the way of the typhoon has passed over the China sea. The barometer has begun to fall at Shanghai. 11 a.m.—A telegram from Manila of the 30th April just received reports a typhoon in the south of the China sea, travelling W.N.W.—May 3rd: The barometer has continued falling slowly at Shanghai; it remained steady in the Formosa channel with light breezes, but is slowly falling at Hongkong with fresh breeze from E.N.E. (Still no telegram from Manila). The wind will probably shift towards the S.E., and the temperature will be warmer.—May 4th: The barometer has continued slowly falling at Shanghai and was also slowly falling yesterday at the southern ports, with moderate and variable winds.—May 5th: Yesterday the barometer was rising at Hongkong and Amoy, but according to the report received it was falling at Foochow, with moderate or light breeze in the Formosa Channel and in the south. At Shanghai the barometer has risen a little this morning and is slightly above the average.—May 6th: The barometer after a short rise yesterday commenced to fall at Shanghai; yesterday it was rising also at the southern ports with moderate N.E. breeze in the Formosa channel and east breeze at Hongkong.—May 7th: Yesterday the barometer remained steady, about the average, all along the China coast, moderate wind from E. or S.E. blowing in the south of Shanghai. This morning the barometer is gently rising here.—May 8th: Yesterday the barometer remained steady in the south with light breeze from S. or S.E. It continues slowly rising at Shanghai but was falling yesterday at Tokio and Wladivostok.

We learn that the Kiukiang tea market opened on Tuesday with a sale of Keemuns, the prices ranging from Tls. 37½ to 42½ per picul. There was no news of Ningchows in the telegram. The Hankow market was expected to open in a day or two, and some Oanfas reached that port on Tuesday, and some other sorts were due there on Wednesday. So far as is known, the quality of the teas is considered favourable.

The operations of the *Anding* at the Woosung Bar have, so far, been attended

with a considerable measure of success. It was anticipated that she would have to remove some 300,000 tons of mud, and it is estimated that already about one-third of this quantity has been removed. In addition to the mud actually lifted and taken away, the stirring up of the silt during the dredging operations has greatly assisted the deepening process, the average depth of water over the bar having been increased by some three feet. The *Anding*, having been at work some time, had to be docked recently, and as some of her gear was getting worn out, new machinery to replace it had to be ordered, and we believe it will arrive in the *Yunnan*.

We learn from the *Chinese Times* of the 3rd received yesterday, that the Peiho is getting worse, the grain junks being unable to get up to Tientsin; and that the Board of Revenue at Peking is reported to have granted the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung two million taels for the development of iron works in Hupeh.

By the *Tokio Maru* on Saturday there left us two people who will be very much missed in Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Westall. Mr. Westall has been a prominent figure in the business as well as the social life of Shanghai for nearly thirty years; he has been a director of some of our most successful public companies; has been prominent at various times in most of our recreative institutions, the Cricket Club, the Race Club, the A.D.C., the Rowing Club, &c., &c., and was the most popular captain of the Rowing Club for many years before his departure for home. The geniality, courtesy, and constant kindness of both Mr. and Mrs. Westall have added greatly to the charms of society in Shanghai, and the heartiest good wishes of all who know them accompany them on their homeward voyage.

In the extracts from the *Peking Gazette* published to-day will be found the very flattering imperial decree in reference to the death of the Marquis Tseng.

The China Medical Missionary Association met at St. Luke's Hospital on Tuesday and arranged business for their coming session, May 19-21. Prof. E. P. Thwing, M.D., of Brooklyn was elected an honorary member. The discussion of opium remedies occupied most of the time.

We wrote as follows on Saturday:—

The "gathering of the clans" for the Missionary Conference next week is going on bravely. Already Dr. Williamson and Mr. Fitch have news of 326 who intend to be present, and for whom accommodation has been provided, and there will be at least 80 members of the China Inland Mission, besides nearly 70 missionaries resident in Shanghai and the suburbs, so that there will be nearly 500 present altogether. It is hoped that the Cathedral will be granted for the introductory service, the sermon at which will be preached by Mr. Hudson Taylor. The morning and afternoon meetings will be held at Union Church, and the evening meetings, where subjects of a more general character will be treated, at the Lyceum Theatre. The most gratifying fact is the evident presence among these five hundred Protestant missionaries, coming from all parts of China, of an earnest desire for a much closer union, and if this should be attained, or serious progress made in this direction, the value of the Conference will be almost incalculable.

Several hundred strangers in town attending the Conference may be interested in knowing something about Shanghai. The word means Upper Sea, or Near the Sea. It is first mentioned A.D. 1015; it had a college in 1250 and became a district city in 1360. In 1570, walls were built to keep out Japanese invaders. The British captured it June 19th, 1842. Rebels seized it in September, 1853, and held it 17 months. It was again attacked during the Taiping rebellion in 1861. The monument on the Bund near the Public Garden commemo-

rates the valour of officers who fell in battle at that time. The Great Northern line of telegraph was connected with this city April 17th, 1871, and in 1876 a railway was opened to Woosung, but closed by the Imperial government the next year. This was the fifth of the treaty ports opened. In 1870 there were 75,047 persons in the three settlements, and in 1885, 195,665. Of these, north of the French concession 3,673 were foreigners, British, Portuguese and Americans predominating. In the French district there are 400 foreigners, mostly French, and 40,000 natives. The police force is 427, half native and the others about equally divided between foreign and Indian. The mean temperature is that of Rome, 59°. The death rate in 1888 was 21.2 per thousand, or, excluding non residents, 18.5. Occasional earthquakes are felt, notably November 13th, 1847, but without doing serious harm. This is a centre of silk and tea exports. The trade in 1868 was 65 million taels, and in 1889 about 146 millions. The spacious docks are worth inspection. There is a frontage of about three quarters of a mile in the premises of the Associated Wharves. A scheme for street railways was approved, but has never been carried out. There are 2,878 jinrickshas, 2,700 wheelbarrows, and 285 native-owned horse vehicles for hire. Land nominally belongs to the Emperor but it is rented at a nominal rate, annually, in perpetuity. The valuation of land and merchandise in these districts in 1882 was £14,250,000. There are various clubs, libraries and museums, missions, hospitals and schools, which will engage the attention of our guests. The streets run nearly east and west, and north and south, the former named after cities and the others from provinces. Seven post offices afford unusual facilities for local and foreign communication. A census will soon be taken. A rough estimate of the population of the native city is 200,000, and of the whole community of Shanghai, native and foreign, nearly half a million.

H.E. Sheng Taotai arrived at Shanghai on Monday morning in the *Haeen*, on his way to Soochow on private business.

In another column will be found the notice of the death, at the age of 63, of Mr. Edward Brand, a well-known Shanghai pilot. The deceased came to China in 1856. He will be buried this afternoon with Masonic ceremonies.

Three Chinese government students left here on Saturday by the *Bayern* for Essen to study gun construction at Krupp's factory.

In the *Hupao* of Saturday there was a strongly-written article on the violence that is sometimes used, both on this and the French Concession, in collecting taxes from natives. The editor says that he has received a number of letters of complaint from aggrieved Chinese, some of them of good position. The article is not inspired by any general discontent with the municipal government, for the editor says:—"We think that the Council, which bestows such attention on everything which it believes will benefit the settlement, will acknowledge that we are also serving the public cause in making this state of things known to them." It is not necessary to publish a full translation of the article, and we hope that the accusations made in it are exaggerations, but the Council might well make some enquiry into the matter.

We have to thank Père Chevalier, S.J., of the Sicawei Observatory, for a copy of the *Bulletin Mensuel* for December last. It contains the usual review of the month and the invaluable charts and tables; and those who were inclined to doubt the earthquake that was felt here on the 28th of December, will find a special note on it with the curves of the magnetic perturbations. The shock was felt, and the strange accompanying noise heard, more severely at Quinsan, where Père Paris was at the time and where "it caused him internally a very strange agitation in all his limbs."

We have to thank the Statistical Department for a portly volume of over six hundred pages, containing the reports and statistics of trade for each port for 1889, with the reports and statistics for Corea. The very valuable reports from the Tongking frontier are accompanied by most useful maps of what was hitherto almost an unknown country. To the reports from the river ports are appended the usual charts of the rise and fall of the Yangtze.

The *Kiangteen* went on a trial trip down the river to Gough Island and back on Tuesday afternoon. This steamer formerly had a low-pressure beam engine, but lately, under Mr. T. Weir's superintendence, this engine has been converted into a pair of compound surface condensing engines, some of the material of the old engine being utilised. The *Kiangteen* has now two new boilers, and all the work has been done by Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co. The engines are still beam engines, but the cylinders are 29 inches and 58 inches in diameter respectively, with a stroke of 12 feet, and the two boilers, which are double-ended and have a working power of 70 lb. of steam, are fitted with eight furnaces. In the engine room there are also the following auxiliary engines, namely, a pair of engines for driving the air pump, a centrifugal pump, a common donkey, two Weir's patent feed donkeys, and a patent feed heater, with patent steam starting gear. A steam capstan has been fitted aft, and will be very useful. The ship has been nicely painted and everything looks spick and span as a new pin, with the exception of the engine room, but this will be done up as early as possible. The trip down the river yesterday was a pleasant one, and the guests enjoyed the outing. The measured mile, going down river at the end of the flood, was done in 5 min. 55sec., a very good performance, seeing that with new engines everything cannot be expected to work smoothly. The *Kiangteen* is still to be commanded by Captain Pratt, who has been in her for nearly twelve years; and Mr. E. W. Clements goes as chief engineer. The *Kiangteen* was originally named the *Moning*, but the name was changed to *Hupoh* when she arrived in China, and she was built in 1870 by A. and J. Inglis, of Glasgow. She was the first walking-beam engine steamer built in Scotland, and the good folks of Glasgow were much interested in her, to them, strange appearance. It is also worthy of note that she is the first in China to be fitted with a compound walking-beam engine, and the alteration has been an improvement in more ways than one.

There are many people who take an interest in the stars who have never seen the planet Mercury, and just now is the most favourable time for seeing it. Over that part of the horizon where the sun has disappeared can be seen about seven o'clock the planet Venus, and a little to the north and above Venus, the planet Mercury will be found.

Fire broke out at 1 o'clock on Tuesday morning near the Tien Hou Kung in Hongkew, in identically the same place that a fire occurred a few months ago, and the same number of houses were destroyed. The property was owned by Chinese. The "Victorias" were the first to play on the flames, and one of their men waded through a creek breast deep to get hose across and passed the "Deluge" men whose hose had burst before the water reached their nozzle. The "Mih-ho-loongs" and the French engine Co. also had streams playing on the fire, but all the companies required a great many lengths of hose owing to the fire being so far from the water supply. The order to reel up was given at 2 a.m.

The Ching Ling Foo troupe of Chinese jugglers gave an entertainment at the Philharmonic Hall on Thursday night (1st) and performed some very clever tricks. The facility with which the chief juggler produced bowls of water, lighted lanterns, nuts,

fruits and globes containing gold fish out of a piece of cloth was astonishing, there being no conveniences handy from which he could obtain these articles. A little boy did a lot of "gum elastic" business and, as the double ended youth, brought down the house. The third artist showed his skill in balancing saucers and plates in all kinds of positions, while the chief juggler demonstrated that the law of gravitation does not apply in all cases, for he made a top ascend a piece of string. The most wonderful part of the performance was the last. The performer lighted a piece of Chinese paper and put it all ablaze into his mouth. Then he filled his mouth with brau, and after a time emitted volumes of smoke and balls of fire. Following this, an immense quantity of paper was pulled out of his mouth and piled up many feet high on top of a table. On this being removed, a pagoda, six feet high with lamps burning inside, was disclosed. The evening's entertainment was well worth the price of admission.

There are still hopes of getting the *New-chuang* off, and she has not suffered by the two gales that have passed up the coast, as she appears to be in a sheltered position. The engine room is dry and her engines are intact. The delay, so far, has been caused by the pump that was sent to her not being in good working order, so another has been ordered and was to leave Hongkong on Wednesday.

The *Charles S. Whitney* was towed up to the Old Dock buoy on Monday afternoon, and as her cargo has been discharged, the damage done to her side by scraping the Leuconna rocks can be seen. Her starboard side is scored for twelve feet between the main and mizen masts, about in a line with the twelve and thirteen feet marks.

Mr. Kidson asks us to state that he only acted as interpreter, at the request of the owners, when he spoke in reply to the toast by Mr. Ottomeier during the trial trip of the *Chung On* on Thursday.

The entries of vessels at the Shanghai Customs during April were:—British 115; Chinese 59; German 17; Japanese 16; French 5; Russian 2, Danish 1: making a total of 215. In addition to these there were 31 Chinese lorches.

Lord Dunlop, who is now endeavouring to obtain a divorce from his wife, *née* Miss Belle Bilton, the music-hall singer, arrived at Hongkong, en route for Yokohama, in the *Rohilla*.

Mr. Junius S. Morgan, head of the well-known American banking firm of J. S. Morgan & Co., London, is dead, leaving a fortune estimated at £6,000,000 sterling. He was killed by being thrown from his carriage at Monte Carlo.

The Raub Australian Syndicate, Ltd., issues a curious balance-sheet. The chief points are: in the liabilities, Capital issued, net, £862,500; Sundry creditors, £8,755. In the assets, Mining property, £861,956; Machinery, £1,695; Plant, £1,060. The profit and loss account shews expenses £291 and receipts, nil.

The *Daily Graphic*, which has grown into an excellent and most readable newspaper as well as a bright pictorial record of current events, has some interesting sketches of the electric railway that is to be opened to the public in London this summer. It is subterranean, running from King William Street, City, under the Thames, to the Swan, Stockwell. A preliminary trip from King William Street to the Elephant and Castle, was made on the 5th of March by the Lord Mayor and a number of *invités*. There are two tunnels, for the up and down lines respectively, just a trifle larger than the carriages which are almost circular in section. The distance was made in 3 min. 36 sec., and there is of course, no smoke or dust and no deterioration of the atmosphere by the products of combustion. There will be six stations altogether when the line is opened, King

William Street, Great Dover Street, Elephant and Castle, Kennington Park, The Oval, and Stockwell, and it is proposed to extend the line to Clapham.

From Hongkong papers to the 3rd inst. which arrived yesterday we learn that the Chartered Bank is giving its officers a bonus of ten per cent. on their salaries.—A Singapore firm has built a switchback railway for Manila.—The *Chow-chow-foo* had arrived from Swatow with crank shaft broken.—Mr. J. D. Humphreys, General Manager of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., proposes to pay a final dividend for 1889 of 7 per cent., making 14 per cent. for the year.—Rumours are in circulation, says the *Daily Press*, of an extensive opium fraud in Calcutta, which it is said will involve the banks in some loss: it is reported in Shanghai that the case in which Mr. Drummond has been retained for Mr. Belilios is connected with this.—Influenza is prevalent in Saigon.—It was expected that the *Newchwang* would be floated last Thursday; it was feared that some trouble would arise from her captain's having shot a Chinaman; whether accidentally or not was uncertain.—The *Aréthuse*, which was aground in Hainan Straits, had been got off, and had arrived at Haiphong.—The *Hongkong Telegraph* says that famine is reported from several provinces in Upper Tongking, and the missionaries are doling out rice. The same paper gives a ghastly description of the execution of six criminals at Kowloon City on the 1st instant.

A fire broke out at No. 68, Bonham Strand West, a general store, on Friday morning between 1.30 and 2 o'clock. There was a strong wind blowing at the time and despite the early arrival of the Fire Brigade on the scene, the flames spread to the adjoining houses Nos. 70 and 72, which were completely gutted before the fire was got under, shortly before 4.30 a.m. No. 74 was partially destroyed. Five men living on the first floor of No. 68, in which lived some thirty persons, finding their means of exit cut off by the rapid spread of the flames, jumped from the verandah into the street and were so seriously injured that they had to be taken to the Hospital. There are two men still missing and search amongst the *débris* is being made by the Police. The first shop, No. 68, is insured to the extent of \$41,000, in three offices viz. North German Fire Insurance \$16,000 (Messrs. Dunn, Melbye & Co. agents), General Life and Fire Insurance Co. \$15,000 (Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co., agents), and \$10,000 in Lubeck Fire Insurance Co. for which Messrs. Schellhass & Co., are the agents. No. 70 is insured for \$20,000 in one of Messrs. Ed. Schellhass & Co.'s agencies; No. 74 is insured for \$6,000 with the same firm; No. 72 is insured for \$7,000 with a company of which Messrs. Dunn, Melbye & Co. are agents. The master of the shop in which the fire originated is said to be missing. An enquiry into the cause of the fire will take place at the Magistracy.—*Daily Press*.

The *Courier d'Haiphong* of the 20th of April devotes its first page to a review of the trade of Tongking in 1889, and incidentally to a complete condemnation of the protective system which the mother-country has forced on the colony. The figures are as follows:—

IMPORTS.		France.
Merchandise from France	.....	6,578,572
Specie do.	.....	9,046,000
Merchandise from other countries	.....	17,173,912
Specie do.	.....	288,260

EXPORTS.		France.
Merchandise to France and Cochinchina	.....	477,444
Merchandise to other countries	.....	10,161,564
Specie do.	.....	4,469,628

Thus the imports from France are only 6,578,572 francs against 6,400,000 francs in the previous year; and the sole gain to France from the onerous *tarif général*

is an increase in her exports of less than £7,000 sterling. The *Courier* concludes its article by saying:—

"Merchants here ask if their patriotic submission to the ruinous exigencies of the mother-country's manufacturers has given appreciable results; what it is important to shew to the Legislature, to the Syndicate which tyrannises over us, is that the trial has been unproductive, that French products are in no greater demand than before, that there is a risk, if the experience is prolonged, of ruining the country and of propagating among the natives a spirit of disaffection against the French people, who make them pay dear now for what they bought cheap a little while ago. In the colonies protection is the best friend of piracy."

The *Océanien* brought dates from Yokohama to the 26th ult. It has been explained that the entire absence of any decorations at the landing of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Yokohama was due to the Imperial Household Department, with whom the British committee could not interfere.—The *Mogul* reports the *Ulysses* a total loss in the Narrows, about 30 miles from Kobe.—A charming theatrical performance by children, consisting of *Little Red Riding Hood*, and *Alice*, was given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, on the 25th ult., and repeated, with great success.

The *Yokohama Maru* on Tuesday brought dates from Yokohama to the 30th ult., and from Kobe to the 1st instant. About 100 earthquakes were felt on Miyake island between the 17th and 19th ult. Many houses were destroyed and several landslips occurred.—No clue has yet been discovered to the murderers of Mr. Large.—The Yokohama Public Hall Association is to be wound up.—The native papers are taking much interest in the Duke of Connaught's movements and carefully recording them.—Mr. J. M. Mur was committed for trial in the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe on the 24th ult., on the charge of criminally libelling Mr. Hunter Sharp, Marshal of the U.S. Consulate, by writing to Admiral Belknap an anonymous letter in which it was stated that Mr. Sharp was a card sharp and would soon be a swindler. Mr. Mur was released on bail.—The Osaka Shoshen Kaisha's steamer *Kenju Maru* was stranded at Yamahana on the 23rd ult.:—Hudson's Surprise Party played to full houses in Kobe.—The Emperor landed unexpectedly at Kobe on the 29th ult. and proceeded to Kioto.

The *Rising Sun* says:—From an occasional correspondent in Seoul we learn that the *Royal Gazette* of the 15th inst. contained a notification to the effect that Mr. O. N. Denny's contract for two years with the Korean Government having expired, his connection as Vice-President of the Home Office has ceased. Our informant also states that about two weeks ago a Royal Decree was issued, directing the dismissal of all the employés of the Foreign Office, except the President, consequently Mr. Denny's connection with the Foreign Office has also ceased. It is said that he has now been paid up his arrears of salary in full, and will shortly leave Corea.—From the same source we also learn that, a few days ago, while two of the French Catholic missionaries were coming up to the capital, from one of the southern provinces, for their annual re-union, they were stopped by a band of some twenty brigands, about 39 miles from Seoul. Both of them were slightly wounded with sword cuts, and were relieved of all their possessions and clothes, except their trousers. It was, at one time, considered whether they ought not to be put to death, as it was thought they were Japanese; but fortunately or closer examination it was found they had the appearance of being Europeans, and their lives were spared. The French authorities here are said to be very angry at such an outrage being committed.

Miscellaneous Article.**THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.***6th May.*

THE first meeting of the General Missionary Conference will be held on Wednesday next, the 7th instant, when the opening services will be conducted by the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor. The rise and progress of the China Inland Mission attest the unwearied zeal and the genuine organising genius of its founder. His magnetic influence in attracting and inspiring followers makes him an eminently representative missionary and the claims of older workers in the field have been gracefully and wisely waived in his favour. Seventeen years have elapsed since the last conference was held, and in view of the surprising changes which have taken place both in the societies and the conditions under which they work, the missionaries cannot be accused of undue haste in again uniting in conference to learn from each other the lessons of the past and to plan anew the course of the campaign. At the last conference some 120 missionaries attended. It is an unmistakeable proof of the rapid increase in their number during the past few years and also of the importance with which the present conference is regarded, that already over 400 representatives of the various missionary societies, gathered from almost every province of China, are assembled in Shanghai, and to this number must be added the sixty or seventy resident missionaries. Such an influx of visitors would tax the resources of many a larger place than our little settlement, but the hospitality of Shanghai has a reputation which the residents are determined to maintain. The Conference has attracted a body of men who are admitted, even by those who most differ from them, to be worthy representatives of the philanthropic and intellectual elements of Anglo-Chinese life and the community has bestirred itself to give them a fitting reception. The committee has received from all sides offers to entertain the far-travelled guests. In some cases empty houses for which furniture has been provided have been generously placed at their disposal and, in spite of the large numbers to be housed, all appear to have been comfortably provided for and the house-boats which it was at one time thought would have to be brought into requisition have now been dispensed with. It would be difficult to find a more conclusive proof of the change which has taken place in public opinion with regard to missionaries. As far as the foreign residents of Shanghai are concerned the missionaries will meet with no grudging welcome. They will not expect laymen to agree with them in everything any more than they agree with each other, and neither one side nor the other is likely to object to mutual criticism concluded in a friendly spirit. There are points open to exception in both layman and missionaries

which need not interfere with their mutual aid and respect. We are all missionaries in spite of ourselves, the labours of the merchant and the missionary act and react on the other, and if commerce has led the van the missionaries have proved prompt and intrepid followers. Their services in opening up new fields and in rendering access easy to those already opened, their achievements as explorers and interpreters, as philologists, and lexicographers, as naturalists and ethnologists, are not lightly to be esteemed or easily forgotten. By breaking down bit by bit the old barriers of superstition and dread of foreigners they have placed every resident in China in their debt. In the higher work of educating, civilising and, if we may use the word, moralising a nation, they have rendered a service to the world at large. However much dogmatic differences may appear to separate them from the rest of the community, their medical, philanthropic and scientific labours command the respect and good will of every thoughtful and intelligent man. What little prejudice still exists is based upon ignorance which is unhappily the monopoly of neither side, and even should the present Conference yield no practical results, something at any rate will have been gained in making better acquainted with each other two elements in Anglo-Chinese life whose interests are largely identical and whose best hope for the future lies in their mutual trust and respect.

The sittings of the Conference will extend over ten days and, judging from the official calendar now before us, its members are evidently determined to remove the reproach, which has not been made without cause, that similar meetings have resulted in little but visionary projects and rancorous disputations. We refer specially to the significant omissions in the list of subjects. It is impossible not to regret that on some points of vital importance the missionaries should after all these years be still found hopelessly at variance. Does anyone doubt that, if similar difficulties had arisen in any scientific or commercial society, they would long ago have been settled by the common sense of the members, or that at the most the minority would have yielded with a good grace to the decision of the majority? But we must take things as they are, and if certain subjects have already been argued beyond the reach of argument, by all means let them rest until a more reasonable spirit shall prevail. Meanwhile there is no lack of variety. Nearly seventy papers have been prepared on the Bible, the Church, Education, Literature, and the relations between the missionaries and the Chinese Government. Other papers are concerned with Hospitals, Orphanages, Opium Refuges and the like. The Aboriginal Tribes of Formosa, the Miao-tsü of Western China, and the Chinese in Bhamo and Singapore also find a place in the proceedings. Nor must

we omit to mention the papers on Women's Work contributed by those best qualified to speak, namely the ladies themselves. This is a pretty wide field and yet so far as we are acquainted with the names there is not one which does not carry with it the weight of an expert's opinion. It is characteristic of the business-like air of the conference and the desire of the members to reach some definite conclusion that the papers are already in print and may be purchased for a few cents each. To those, therefore, who mean to take part in the debate ample opportunity is afforded for thoroughly sifting the arguments and testing the facts upon which they are founded. At the conclusion of the Conference the papers together with the criticisms will be printed in book form and will be welcomed as a valuable survey of the present state and prospects of missionary work in China.

The various subjects to which we have referred will no doubt appeal with varying intensity to the different sects met to discuss them. But in point of practical importance there is one which as far as the general public is concerned far outweighs them all. Union should be the keynote of the conference. It is a point which calls for immediate attention. Missionaries are doubtless aware of the stumbling blocks their various sects, divided often by the most finical differences, have placed in the way of the Chinese, and we gladly recognise the breadth of view and liberality of spirit which are growing with the years, and of which this General Conference, where everyone even the Roman Catholics are welcome, where all sectional and doctrinal differences are merged in one grand aspect of the common work, is a proof. Undoubtedly, there is much harmony of working already and the poaching on a neighbouring missionary preserve is a complaint which is now seldom heard. But the reckless expenditure of money, and of energy far more valuable, which still continues, is simply deplorable. It is a condition of things which the shareholders of a Joint Stock Company would not tolerate for one moment. It is idle to plead orders from home. The missionaries exercise much influence over the parent societies and, if they had been really in earnest, could have convinced them long ago. Residents in China are watching them more closely and sympathetically than they suppose and are looking to them to settle this question now. The Protestant societies lack the organisation which renders such a task easy to the Roman Catholics, but it is well within the powers of a representative assembly like the present. Settle it what way you please union, co-operation, sub-division of the field, but settled it must be, or the result will be a revolution of feeling which will go far to alienate the sympathies of all the lay friends of missions in China.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT CO.'S ORDINANCE, I.

7th May.

THE Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, is in the unpleasant predicament of having too much money. As long as the boom lasted, there appeared to be directions in which its large funds could be utilised, but the bubble has burst, enterprise has shrunk up for the present, and the best it can do with its big cash balance is to deposit it with the Hongkong Bank at a bare five per cent. The shareholders are not likely to be pleased with the result of such an operation as that, and the directors accordingly have been casting about for a wider field in which to employ the Company's funds. Unfortunately the Memorandum of Association of the company only allows it to transact business in the Colony of Hongkong and its dependencies, and before the company can employ its funds outside Hongkong, this Memorandum must be varied; and this the company proposed to do by means of an ordinance, which duly passed the Legislative Council on the 9th of April. Before this ordinance was approved by the Acting Governor, a protest appeared in the Hongkong papers from Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., in the form of a letter to the Acting-Governor asking him to disallow the ordinance.

Mr. Francis, whose protest gains additional weight from his being a shareholder in the company, gives several reasons why the ordinance should be disallowed, and he summarises his reasons at the end of his letter. The first is that the managing directors of the company, Messrs. Keswick and Chater, both members of the Legislative Council, introduced the ordinance into the Council without the authority of the shareholders as a body. Mr. Francis does not doubt that they consulted the influential shareholders in Hongkong, and obtained a sufficient number of assents, but they did not take the sense of the members of the company generally in any form. The shareholders unquestionably have full confidence in their managing directors, who are irremovable, but Mr. Francis holds that they ought to have been consulted, and he is evidently not satisfied with the last clause of the bill, "This ordinance shall not take effect unless and until it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Governor that the Company in meeting has by special resolution . . . approved of the same, such satisfaction to be evidenced by notification or proclamation under the hand of the Governor in the *Gazette*." The next four reasons are so interwoven that it is more convenient to take them together. They come to this; that if the capital of the company is too large, it should be reduced and the superfluous part of it paid back to the shareholders, who would be very glad to get it; if however, the shareholders prefer to widen the Company's sphere of operations, the

proper process is reconstruction by winding up the present company, either voluntarily or by ordinance, and starting a new one. "Reconstruction under the Companies' acts and ordinances," says Mr. Francis, "is easy and simple;" and this is an answer to Mr. Keswick's statement in the Legislative Council that "there was another course which the company might have adopted, namely, that of winding up and registering as a new company, but that course is so cumbrous as to be considered undesirable." Mr. Francis, however, writes that "the real objection to reconstruction is probably that most people interested in the company would like to see its capital reduced and its constitution altered, or the thing wound up." Against this we may be fairly sure that Messrs. Keswick and Chater would not have introduced an ordinance which could not come into force without the assent of the shareholders, unless they were convinced that that assent would be given. Coming to Mr. Francis' sixth reason, it is that "even if it be desirable to extend the powers of the company, the extension sought for is far too wide and unlimited," which is obviously only a personal opinion. It may turn out well or ill to extend the company's operations to other ports and places, but as to this the shareholders would still be in the hands of the managing directors, and would have to trust them as they do already. The seventh objection is that the ordinance is in direct violation of existing imperial and local law on the subject of companies. At present a Memorandum of Association—the shareholders' charter, which is therefore generally made as vague and comprehensive as possible—"can never, in its essentials, be varied or altered even with the assent and good will of every member of the company." The Articles of Association prescribe the means by which the objects of the Memorandum of Association are to be carried into effect, and they can be altered or amended, if the proper steps are taken, but no consent can alter the Memorandum itself, which, as we have said before, is the shareholder's charter. On the faith of that he subscribes his money, and though the law allows a great deal to a majority, it will not allow the smallest shareholder to be deprived of the protection of the Memorandum, which, in the words of Lord Cairns, quoted by Mr. Francis, "states affirmatively the ambit and extent of vitality and power which by law are given to the Corporation, and negatively that nothing shall be done beyond that ambit and that no attempt shall be made to use the corporate life for any purpose than that which is there specified." The subject is such an important one to every mercantile community that we propose to devote another article to it, in which we shall consider the opinion on Mr. Francis's protest, which the directors of the company in question were fortunate enough to be able to

obtain promptly from Mr. Drummond, who was in Hongkong at the time. Meanwhile we reprint in another column, and direct our readers' attention to, the report of the Select Committee of Parliament on the subject of private bills altering memorandums of association of public companies.

II.

8th May.

MR. DRUMMOND's reply to Mr. Francis is, as we should expect, close, exhaustive, and sufficient. He follows his antagonist point by point, and after reading it the Acting-Governor of Hongkong would have been perfectly justified in approving the ordinance, if the last two paragraphs had been omitted. It must have been a little disconcerting, however, for the directors of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, after reading this long opinion, and feeling with every paragraph how reasonably and prudently they had acted in seeking to encompass the extension of the company's field of operations by means of an ordinance, instead of by reconstruction, to be thrown again into doubt by the penultimate paragraph of the opinion. In this their adviser suggests a question whether it is desirable to proceed to carry out the alteration by means of an Ordinance, notwithstanding the many great advantages of this course. Then he refers to the report which we reprinted yesterday from the *Law Times*, which shews that the opinion of the Select Committee of the present Parliament is that the alteration of memorandums of association by private Acts should be sanctioned.

Mr. Drummond's finding, then, being on one point doubtful, while his summing-up is certainly favourable, his confutation of Mr. Francis is still of public interest, and it is anything but a waste of time to summarise it. Mr. Francis complained that the ordinance was not submitted to the shareholders before being introduced into the Legislative Council, to which Mr. Drummond replies that it was announced, and a draft of it printed, in the *Government Gazette* of the 15th and 22nd March, three weeks and a fortnight before it was introduced. Full publicity was thus given to it, and indeed it occurs to ask why Mr. Francis waited until the ordinance was passed before making his objection to it. His excuse is that he "calculated on the bill being thrown out or withdrawn immediately on its coming before the Attorney-General", as we now see that it would have been if Mr. Francis had filled that post. It is to a certain extent a matter of taste whether such an ordinance shall be first passed and then submitted to the shareholders of the company for approval, or assented to by them before being introduced into the Council. The directors no doubt took into consideration the habit of shareholders as a class. There would probably have been an infinitude of objections and suggestions

if the ordinance had been laid before a special meeting of shareholders beforehand; while the same shareholders, when they are once confronted by their directors in meeting, would accept a *fait accompli* without a word of dissent. Whether the Legislative Council is not sacrificing its dignity a little in devoting a part of its time to the consideration of an ordinance which may be withdrawn after all, as is apparently the case with this one, is a question for itself to decide. It is obvious that Mr. Drummond is right in saying that the shareholders are in no way aggrieved by the course adopted, as it was distinctly left to them to refuse the ordinance if they did not like it. Nor is there any force in Mr. Francis' objection that the ordinance was in violation of imperial and local law on the subject of companies. The position of the Council in the matter is very much fortified by the report of the Select Committee on the subject, and, as Mr. Drummond points out, "if the ordinance itself should be approved by the shareholders, and after being duly passed by the Council should be assented to by the Queen, it simply becomes law." Whether the powers of the Legislative Council of the Colony are very limited, or not, is hardly in question: as soon as the Secretary of State has signified his approval of any ordinance it passes, and that ordinance, as Mr. Drummond says, "has as much effect as regards persons and property within the limits of the Colony as an Act of Parliament duly passed and assented to by the Queen has upon persons and property within the United Kingdom."

Then Mr. Drummond goes on to draw attention to the superiority of an ordinance to a reconstruction. "The ordinary course of reconstruction," he says, "involves winding-up, liquidation, fresh registration, and not only a great deal of work and inconvenience, but a very heavy expense, whereas the passing of an ordinance requires very little work, no inconvenience, and a very nominal expense." This is rather a contrast to Mr. Francis' assurance that reconstruction is easy and simple; but most people who have had anything to do with the reconstruction of a public company will acknowledge without a moment's hesitation that Mr. Drummond is right. But—and here comes the objection that upsets the whole scheme of defence of the ordinance so elaborately constructed by Mr. Drummond—the ordinance "does not provide the legal procedure for paying off dissentient shareholders which is provided by the ordinary method of reconstruction under the Companies Acts." And therefore Mr. Drummond has to agree with Mr. Francis that there is this weak point in the ordinance; and this is a, douche of cold water for the directors the Attorney-General, and the Legislative Council. When the General Act recommended by the Select Committee is passed, providing for alterations in memorandums of association by special

resolution, with the safeguards provided, reconstruction will be no longer necessary; but at present it appears that if the Hongkong Land Investment Company is to get the power to employ its funds outside Hongkong, it can best get it by liquidating and re-forming itself.

THE SIBERIAN ATROCITIES.

9th May.

THOSE who have read the brief accounts of the now notorious "Siberian atrocities" published from time to time in the papers, cannot but be horror-stricken at the ghastly story of these unfortunate exiles. This horror is the more enhanced when we consider the apathy and utter want of concern on the part of the Russian Government. To think that such scenes should be witnessed and condoned, if not actively, at least passively by responsible rulers, almost makes us believe we are living in semi-barbarous ages rather than the 19th century. While making a liberal allowance for exaggeration and misrepresentation in these reports of interested partisans, there still remains sufficient matter to call for a deep and searching enquiry. As generally admitted by travellers and experienced men, veracity is not a virtue greatly exercised or even appreciated by the Muscovite element of humanity, but after carefully divesting their reports of such ornate particulars, there still remains a residuum of truthfulness, which is appalling enough. In an autocratic country like Russia—covering so vast an area and divided, sub-divided and pieced into provinces, districts, cantons and villages, each presided over by its autocratic governor, *Ispravnik*, *Stanovoi* and *Ouriadnik*, officials practically responsible to no one, it is impossible to attribute to the central government at St. Petersburg, the shameful abuses and tyranny so often displayed towards the *zemstro*, or the people not in the actual employ of the Government. But when these scandals are bared to the public eye, when they become the topic of conversation in every nation, but their own,—for the mere knowledge of such would mean imprisonment and perhaps exile—when the whole civilised world is raising its voice in bitter denunciations of such unnatural crimes—then we affirm it is high time, in the interests of humanity which they may not recognise now—in the name of their holy religion which they do but mockingly traverse day after day—in the name and interest of international peace which they dare not imperil with impunity—in these names we conjure them to bring the authors of such deeds to the bar of justice. We do not ask them to be condemned unheard and undefended, as they have condemned their victims, but to receive measure for measure the punishment they so justly deserve. We learn that an enquiry was instituted, and the prisoners found guilty. Guilty of what? Of

crimes never proved nor substantiated. Where is this report? Has it been published? No; "only two or three disinterested persons have set eyes upon" this admirable specimen of Russian justice. They fear to publish it, for their deeds are evil. The tribunal as constituted was a sham, a farce, a mockery. Of this worthy tribunal of five, only one—the Secretary Fedoroff—had any knowledge of law or how such solemn proceedings should be conducted. On him devolved the duty of reading the charges, and *condemning* the prisoners—for there was no evidence, except suborned evidence by the prosecution—the defendants were not permitted even to engage a pleader. Thus, without cross-examination, for that would upset their perjured witnesses, and undefended, were these poor unfortunates doomed to death; to die like dogs on the bleak Siberian steppes of Russia. Can we wonder they refuse to publish the proceedings, which justified the Czar in promoting the Chairman Ostashine to a permanent governorship? Space will not permit us to enumerate the pitiful stories of the sufferers at Kara and Yakoutsk—with their "hunger-strikes, poisonings and suicides"—tales that make the blood run cold. We have not forgotten that peculiar refinement of Russian tenderness, as exhibited in the Crimean campaign, when at Balaklava they directed their guns to the very thickest of that frightful *mêlée*, and fired on friend and foe alike! These are historical facts known and read of all men and which neither subterfuge nor equivocal denials can eradicate. They pretend to prove that this was a suppression of another Nihilist plot of assassination,—the outburst of a fanatically nervous hatred against all lawful government. We know that it was the inevitable sequence of hounding men on to death by a slow torture of starvation, cold and neglect: surrounded, guarded and watched by armed men and brutal officers—frost-bitten and weary to death—we see the supreme last effort of despair and misery—such as we should expect from brute beasts, much more from beings created in the image of God. With Patrick Henry they cry; "Is life so dear, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God—give us liberty or give us death!" What is the most remarkable feature about the whole affair is "*that many of the prisoners carried revolvers!*" Fancy in autocratic Russia—exiles—outcasts permitted to carry weapons. Why, even in England, the veriest street urchin arrested for petty theft, would be searched and deprived of everything but absolute necessities; and yet these men, whose professed and known aim is destruction to the present system of Government, are allowed to carry from day to day the very implements in which they put their trust! Speculation and experience would not uncharitably justify the surmise, that the whole thing was a premeditated butchery, the weapons

being permitted to remain on them in order to exonerate the officials, and attach the blame upon the recalcitrants as the originators of the affray. Enough has been said and written to warn the Russian powers, that they cannot violate the laws of common humanity with impunity—the eyes of the civilised world are upon them. Let the Czar rise to the emergencies of the occasion—let him continue those wise reforms commenced by his predecessor Alexander II, disregarding the petty fears of his ministers—let him prove to the whole world that he recognises those self-evident truths “that all men are endowed with inalienable rights: and that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” and we believe that with patience, justice and mercy, peace and happiness will follow his efforts.

Review.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

We have already alluded to Tenniel's cartoon in *Punch*, “Dropping the Pilot,” and the distinction that marks this drawing is very striking, when we compare it with Mr. Gould's cartoon in the *Pall Mall*, “The New Charioteer.” On the subject of the Prince's resignation *Punch* has two poems, a satirical one with the motto “For this relief, much thanks !”, from which we may quote four lines :—

Yet deem not ungrateful your Emperor and King ;

Let me pay you my thanks at the Court rate.

So I make you a Duke, ere I let you take wing,

And O Prince, I will send you my Portrait !

and a serious one, which is quite worth quoting in full :—

Great Pilot, whom so many storms have tried,

To see thee quit the helm at last, at last,
And slow descend that vessel's stately side,
Whilst yet waves surge and skies are overcast,

Wakes wondering memories of that mighty past,

Shaped by a guiding hand,
Strong to direct as strenuous to command.
When yet did a great ship on the great sea
Drop Pilot like to thee ?

The “wakeful Palinurus” of old song
Drownd at the last, and floods his corpse
did whelm ;

But thou hast ever been alert as strong,
Pilot who never slumbered at the helm.

Impetuous youth aspires to rear a realm,
And the State-bark to steer

In other fashion. Is it faith or fear
Fills the old Pilot's spirit as he moves
Slow from the post he loves ?

No “branch in Lethe dipped by Morpheus”
slacks

This Pilot's sight, or vanquishes his force.
The ship he leaves may steer on other tacks ;

Will the new Palinurus hold her course
With hand as firm and skill of such resource ?

He who, Æneas-like,
Now takes the helm himself, perchance may strike

On sunken shoals, or wish, on the wild main,
The old Pilot back again.

These things are on the knees of the great
gods :

But, hap what hap, that slow-descending
form,

Which oft hath stood with winds and waves
at odds,

And almost single-handed braved the storm,
Shows an heroic shape ; and high hearts
warm

To that stout grim-faced bulk
Of manhood looming large against the hulk
Of the great Ship, whose course, at fate's
commands,
He leaves to lesser hands !

The *Spectator* devotes two pages to the causes and results of the resignation : for a resignation it was even if, as some correspondents assert, the Emperor forced it on his Minister. It is a strange and yet a most natural event, says the *Spectator* ; “the moment it became clear that the Emperor intended to govern for himself, it became also clear that the governing days of the great Chancellor were numbered.” So long as the Emperor confined himself to administering military affairs directly, the Chancellor submitted, for military affairs have always been the peculiar province of the Prussian Kings ; but when the Emperor began to show that he meant to undertake the control of civil affairs and of foreign relations, even suggesting that all the Prussian Ministers should report to him direct, and not through the Chancellor, it was too much, and the intolerableness was accentuated by the Emperor's conversion to Socialism. The sternest repression had been the Chancellor's policy :—

He would, to maintain this policy, have made almost any parliamentary alliance, even one with the Clericals, but he would make no alliance with the Freisinnige, who could not, for decency's sake alone, concede his measures of Socialist repression. To see his policy given up in this respect, and replaced by a policy either of concession or of autocratic philanthropy—for there are two views of it—must have been exceedingly galling, more especially if the alternative policy struck him as dangerous for the future, a plunge into the unknown. He is said to have declared that in all such questions every concession led to another ; but this is not satisfactorily confirmed. At all events, he could not approve it, and could not but feel, when it was adopted, that he was set aside, and set aside, too, in favour of what he views as “English ideas,” and has regarded all his life with more or less scorn. Whether, as the well-informed correspondent of the *Telegraph* affirms, he believed, that his master was falling under English influences in general, it is impossible to say, nor is it needful to decide. To see his policy on such a subject abandoned for another, was quite enough ; must have been, in fact, equivalent in his mind to seeing the Conservative ideal of the objects of government abandoned for the Liberal one ; and would be amply sufficient to bring all other sources of discontent to a head. It would be evidence to himself that his ruling day was over, and except as ruler he would not understand himself. The Prince therefore resigned, leaving in his fall a vast vacancy, the filling up of which no man living may confidently predict.

As to the results of the resignation, the *Spectator* “cannot but think that it will prove, on the whole, and perhaps by degrees, unfavourable to continued peace.” The Emperor cannot possibly have, nor can General Caprivi have, the weight that Bismarck had contributed, nor can they replace the deep awe that was felt of his unbending character and terribly large views. The uncertainties of politics are greatly increased too, for the Emperor's character is still unknown :—

And, lastly, the result upon Germany itself must be very great. We take it that the fountains of the great deep will there be broken up. The governing German feeling in politics for twenty years has been that Prince Bismarck was the necessary man. He had offended whole sections of the people—the Catholics of Germany, for example, form a third of the population,—he was detested by entire classes—witness the 1,400,000 Socialist votes thrown in the ballot of last month,—and he had made personal enemies innumerable ; but, nevertheless, a *plébiscite* taken at any moment since Sadowa would have replaced the Chancellor in power. That source of

unity, solidity, and stolidity disappears with his resignation. Every kind of party will feel itself released. Every kind of ambition will develop new vigour. Every strong man now nearly hopeless because the Chancellor was against him, will see, or fancy he sees, a new career opened before his eyes. The brute, the bustle, the confusion will be enormous, and from amidst it all new figures will emerge, to any of which the popular regard may by degrees attach itself. The Emperor cannot carry away the whole of it, however competent he may prove, nor can he exercise the Iron Chancellor's full repressive power. He has not his history to give weight to all his qualities. We should look in particular for a new development of Parliamentary life, and the rise of new Parliamentary parties, some of them perhaps even possessed of permanent vitality. Germany without her Chancellor will no more resemble Germany with him, than a school let loose will resemble a school in attendance on its professors. Carlyle has described in eloquent words the unexpected effects of the end of the Reign of Terror ; and though Prince Bismarck was no Terrorist, he had in his own country so great a silencing effect, that we may witness as unexpected results from his resignation of power. All the frogs will be feeling as if the stork had flown away.

One of the great dangers of the change the *Spectator* does not mention. The triple alliance of Austria, Germany, and Italy has been for some time the main guarantee of the peace of Europe, but the balance of power in the Reichstag is now with the Ultramontanes, and to them the alliance with Italy, the oppressor of the Pope, is a thing to be abhorred. Here Lord Salisbury is affected also. The *Daily Chronicle* says :—

It is, however, impossible to conceal the fact that the whole foreign policy of Lord Salisbury was based on the assumption that Prince Bismarck, or the inheritor of his ideas, would, in our time at least, be the dominant force in the German Empire. We have now to consider a situation in which the dominant influence in Germany has passed to a young Emperor feverishly eager for social reform, in which the German Government has become more dependent than ever on the support of the German Catholics, and in which the German Catholics have become less likely than ever to favour an alliance with Italy. How far in these circumstances the policy of England should be modified it is difficult to say. Nobody exactly knows what promises of naval support Lord Salisbury gave Italy in the event of France making war on Germany, with Italy as a German ally. But most people believe that some more or less valid understanding as to this contingency exists ; and if that be the case, it is obvious that Prince Bismarck's resignation does not decrease the anxieties which are inseparable from Lord Salisbury's official position. Doubtless the timely visit of the Prince of Wales to Berlin may do much to compose these anxieties. But the refusal of Prince Bismarck to receive a visit from the Heir-Apparent, on the ground of an illness from which he seems to have immediately after made a miraculous recovery, scarcely leads us to suppose that the ex-Chancellor is at present in a mood to assist the German Emperor and his friends out of any complications which may have sprung from recent events.

Many of the papers comment on the loss to Lord Salisbury of his leader in foreign politics ; it is left to the *St. James's* to find an unexpected comfort in the resignation :—

The Triple Alliance was supposed to rest very largely on the influence and the prestige of three statesmen—Prince Bismarck, M. Tisza, and Signor Crispi. Of the three, two have fallen within the last few weeks ; nor can it be doubted that the third has suffered somewhat even in the estimation of his own countrymen by the retirement of his great patron and ally. There is a new Ministry in France too, headed by one who is a shifty, adroit, party manager, and little more. In fine, there are few tried and commanding personalities to which the Continent can turn with the firm conviction that there are strong and steady hands upon the levers of the complex machinery which controls peace and war. In place of a Bismarck, an Emperor

William I., or even an Andrássy, or a Tisza, there are mediocrities, or else unknown forces, like the incalculable young Sovereign at Berlin on whom so very much may depend. Perhaps the features in the situation which Englishmen may find most comforting are the evident impression which the naval power of this country has made on the mind of Kaiser Wilhelm, and the fact that among the De Freycinet, and the Szaparys, and the Caprivis, Lord Salisbury must hold a commanding position as a statesman and a diplomatist.

In home politics the great event of the week was the publication of Mr. Balfour's Land Bill for Ireland, which is very much a revival of Mr. Gladstone's bill, the proposal of which had so much to do with the fall of the G.O.M. in 1886. The bill itself seems to be a good one, if it is agreed that it is desirable to remove the existing landlords from Ireland and replace them by a new set, and if it is agreed that it is still desirable to govern Ireland on English ideas, and to immensely enlarge the functions of Dublin Castle. In the newspapers the bill is considered entirely from the party point of view. The *Standard* says:—

'The closer scrutiny to which Mr. Balfour's account of the Land Purchase Scheme has now been subjected, confirms the first favourable impression. Until the Bill is before us it is, of course, impossible to pronounce a conclusive judgment as to the precise adaptation of its provisions to the end in view. But if the clauses correspond with tolerable fidelity to the outline presented in the Chief Secretary's speech, the measure will commend itself to all save those who are animated by the instinct of factious opposition. In no quarter is there any disposition to question the breadth and thoroughness of the plan.'

While the *Daily News* tells us:—

The more Mr. Balfour's land measure comes to be understood the less it will be liked—by the general public at least. Of course we readily admit that until the printed copy of the Bill has been studied we cannot appreciate to the full its merits, if it has any, and its demerits, of which it certainly has a great many. But we cannot think that any study of the printed Bill will reconcile the majority of people to its startling errors of principle. We have already pointed out the curiosities of its sham securities, its misplaced relief, its hopeless inequalities of treatment, its putting of the saddle on the wrong horse. It is strictly a Bill to relieve the worst of the Irish landlords at the expense of, at all events, the credit of the English taxpayer. The supposed resources of Irish guarantee are not worth one moment's serious consideration. The Bill would not, even under the happiest auspices, settle anything in Ireland. It is an outrageous move in the direction of Socialism, but without the attraction and the allurements and the justification held out by all other Socialistic schemes of which we have ever read or heard—the promise to do all that can be done for the most needy, the most neglected, and the most deserving.

To the *Pall Mall*, it is "simply abominable," the *St. James's* calls it "One More Chance for Ireland," but its approval is not quite whole-hearted, and it evidently considers the bill unworkable if local government is granted to Ireland, and Lord Salisbury has promised Ireland a good measure of local government. The *St. James's* says:—

That there is a slight risk on paper cannot be denied, and we may expect that enemies of the Government will exaggerate it. But it is practically trifling, on one condition—that the government of Ireland shall be conducted from London. With a "national" Parliament at Dublin, even with popular and powerful Councils in the counties of Ireland, a scheme which is based upon British credit would become at once unworkable if it were rested on the possible solvency of an Irish Government, and the contingent honesty of Irish politicians. It follows that, if Mr. Balfour's Bill is to pass into law, it must be backed up, so long as it exists, by a continuance of that firm and just administration which has restored to a troubled country some of that commercial confidence under which our own prosperity has been gained and kept. Let the law be variable and the confidence would

disappear; with the confidence would go the credit; and with the credit every hope for the success of Mr. Balfour's Bill.

Before leaving the *St. James's* we must notice the satisfactory assurance as to the future of the Volunteers that has just been given by the War Office. "Partly-worn great-coats, in good condition, will be supplied at a low price, with three years' credit." This is not satire.

Our new ships and our new guns, especially the latter, come in for a pretty severe hammering in the *Saturday*:—

No doubt it is difficult to know what to do with your failures. Lord George is finding that out in the case of the lunatic guns. We commented last week on the rather amazing reference to those degenerate "lubber fiends" in the Admiralty Memorandum. Lord George has surpassed it. When asked whether he did not think it might be a good thing to really test one of those so-called guns, he made the following portentous reply:—"But the erosion caused by the gases cutting inside the gun was so great and the temperature caused by the explosion was so high, that he did not think that any advantage would be derived from such a test." For once the First Lord has made it hard to criticise him with moderation. What does he suppose will happen in battle to this gun which he dare not test in peace? It is with this hideous, costly, and imbecile failure that some of our battle-ships are to be armed. They are being commissioned, they are going on foreign stations. The Admiralty deliberately sends them out with a weapon which Lord George confesses is untrustworthy and terribly dangerous to those who use it; it is done in utter disregard of the lives of officers and men, the safety of the ships, and the honour of England, which we humbly hope is something. It is infamous, impudently and callously infamous. After such a confession the First Lord has only one course open to him, to acknowledge the blunder manfully, to take the guns out, refit and rearm the ships, whatever the cost may be. Anything would be better than further toleration of such an embodied and murderous lie.

The *Pall Mall* has a number of good sketches of and concerning the boat race, in which Oxford was very much helped by their high feather, and by having the best of the side at the end of the race, while Cambridge had it at the beginning. The *Daily Graphic's* pictures, including the despatch and arrival of the pigeons, are very good. In commenting on the race, it says: "There is no doubt the slow stroke and long swing of the Oxonians won them the race. Fletcher was never hustled from start to finish, and his excellent judgment and steady rowing prove him to be a stroke far above the average." (The betting was 2 to 1 and 5 to 2 on Cambridge at the start.) The following extract from *Truth* is a tip for the Derby:—

Surefoot has been backed for as much money as can be got on at the odds for both Two Thousand and Derby, and if he wins at Newmarket he will be as hot a favourite for Epsom as *Donovan* and *Ayrshire* were, for he will simply have the same lot to beat over again, with the addition of *Garter*, *Rathbeal*, and other rubbish, by which I mean that these respectable animals will win races when properly placed, but that at Epsom they will be outclassed hopelessly.

Outports.

CHINANFU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Governor has been absent for over a week being engaged in the inspection of works on the Yellow River. It seems to be the policy to allow an opening for the overflow water in the district of ChiYang, and also in that of Ch'ihô.

An official, who for several years held office in this province and had been promoted to the governorship of Shansi, has lately died, H.E. Yü Shan, a Manchu. I here mention him, as in many ways he

has shown a friendliness to foreigners. In his younger days he was associated with Dr. Martin in certain work in Peking, and has always held the learned instructor in the highest esteem. Later on he was a Prefect at Têngchowfu in this province, and became intimate with Dr. Mateer and especially Dr. Crawford. Still later he was a Prefect and a Taotai in the capital here, and was always ready to protect and assist the missionaries who then lived here. The Rev. Mr. McIlvaine was on specially intimate terms with him, and when the official was promoted to the position of Judge in Honan, he promised to assist Mr. McIlvaine if ever he should decide to visit the city of Kaifengfu, the capital of that province. He only remained in that province for a short time, since a certain criminal case caused his degradation and also that of the other high authorities. Returning from Ili he was again employed in this province as one of the leading officials in charge of the Yellow River. Though the opposition to foreigners has been strong in this city, and he lived next door to the leading man among the gentry, he exchanged calls with the Rev. Mr. Reid, until he was advanced to the position of Judge in Hunan, and then to that of Treasurer and finally Governor in Shansi. He was a man of most genial manners, was an admirer of foreign skill, learning and progress, and was always glad to see the efforts of missionaries recognised and protected.

I learn that opposition has arisen in Chiningchow both against the shop rented by the Methodist Mission and the house rented by the Presbyterian Mission. A riot was threatened and anonymous placards were issued, but the landlords have apparently yielded to the pressure, the foreigners having left immediately after succeeding in renting. The outcome is doubtful, though I fear it will be by no means peaceful, seeing that the former Roman Catholic case in that city and in Yenchowfu is still unsettled.

I also learn that the American Presbyterian Mission has succeeded in renting a house in the city of Ichowfu, and thus far there has been no display of opposition.

The case of the house lately leased in this city seems to have been settled, as repairs have been begun for some time to the knowledge of both officials and gentry.

Three of the missionaries, Messrs. James, Bergen and Reid, are intending to go to the great Missionary Conference at Shanghai. If they are able to learn any new method of securing protection and maintaining peace, we may all rejoice at their temporary absence.

April 21st.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Many thieves are about; not thieves in principle only, but in practice also. The premises of three gentlemen in the settlement were invaded and several articles of value stolen on Friday night last. On this occasion a clock was stolen. Indeed, in such events it is very seldom that clocks do not disappear. Why is it that Chinese, who have such a disregard for time generally, make away with so many timepieces? There is some reason in an American negro stealing a watermelon when one knows the extreme fondness he entertains for this succulent fruit; but there being no valuation whatever set on this synonym for money by the native, the fact that he steals clocks is inexplicable, and must be thrown into the pile of uncracked nuts.

The Chinese in Chinkiang and especially inside the native city are most abusive; it has become so bad that the foreigners passing through seldom escape their insolence. The writer is convinced that unless some effort is made by the native officials

to control the roughs, who seem to be numerous at this time, some foreigners will be seriously injured by them. Small boys generally begin the abuse, but the men soon take it up.
1st May.

FOOCHOW.

(From the *Foochow Echo*.)

The amount of treasure sent up country is computed at \$2,400,000, which is about half of the amount sent last season.

We learn that nearly all the Foochow Native tea packing houses have been closed owing to want of funds. For the benefit of the trade we believe they should all be closed.

It is rumoured that His Excellency the Viceroy intends on his return from his tour of inspection to resign his post.

From a reliable source we learn that the markets up country have been opened at very low prices, sixteen thousand cash is the highest price paid for a picul, while last year twenty-seven thousand cash was the lowest. The teas are reported to be of very superior quality all round.

The heavy thunder and lightning we have had lately, have not passed away without doing mischief. In the city, a house was struck, killing a young woman, who was sitting together with four others, without doing any harm to the rest. The ever superstitious Chinese firmly believe that sins and crimes can only cause such a death. If such be the case, we wonder why so many of them have not yet been killed by lightning.

At the close of the last China New Year we reported the bad financial state of all Pawnbrokers' shops, and we regret to learn that it has continued up to date, in fact matters have gone from bad to worse. Pawn shops are generally owned by very wealthy people under government sanction, paying heavy taxes. The natives assert that if such establishments are in low water the country must be, all round, in a very bad state. We fear it is so, and no doubt this tea season will make things worse.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

On a recent visit to the country between this place and Huchow, I made inquiries as to the extent of suffering from the floods of last autumn, and learned that the people are not in distress. In fact, everything bears the same appearance as in former years, and there is little mention made of the flood. All kinds of food are dearer in price and doubtless people are not living as well as in ordinary years, but there does not seem to be any distress for want of food. About the 20th they began feeding the silkworms and everything has to yield to them. The family have to contract into narrow living and sleeping quarters. In one house I noticed that the bed of the head of the house had been vacated by him that the worms might have the benefit of the mosquito curtains to protect them from insects and the cold. The affectionate title which the country people apply to the worms, "Heavenly darlings," expresses their valuation of them.

In one little village a theatrical play had just been given before the idols, and the people explained to us that it was given later this year because the officials had notified the villages that if they were able to give theatrical plays, they would not be considered objects of charity and could not receive any money from the famine distribution fund. They wisely postponed the play until they had received their portion of the funds, and then had the play all the same. The charity distributed was 300 cash to each adult and 200 cash to each child in the family.

A celebrated case in this region was decided in the yamen of the city prefect a

few days ago. Last autumn six Christians were arrested in the Chüchi district, on what were believed to be false charges. They have been kept in prison there and in this city all winter. In giving his decision the prefect took occasion to remind the prisoners that "though they were Christians they were none the less Chinese subjects and must obey the laws of the Empire" and "that it was more important to have the doctrine in their hearts than merely to have the name inscribed on their foreheads." With these and other words of caution they were released unconditionally.

28th April.

Yesterday was an occasion of interest to the missionaries and native Christians in our city. Dr. and Mrs. Main, who are friends and benefactors to all, are to leave in a few days for a visit to Scotland, their native land, and the students and assistants at the hospital arranged for a farewell meeting in the hospital building. At 2 p.m. the room was well filled with friends who listened with interest to the many words of praise and gratitude which proceeded from the lips of those who had been benefited in various ways by the kind physician and his efficient helpmeet. The room was tastefully decorated and some handsome specimens of embroidery which were presented by students and others to their benefactors were especially attractive. The Doctor replied to the various addresses in a very happy style.

One of the most interesting parts of the service was the reading of the hospital statistics by the chief assistant and I think they will be interesting to the readers of the *N.-C. Daily News*. They show what people are doing quietly in the interior.

The time embraced is from 1882 to 1889 inclusive, eight years. The number of in-patients male and female was 2,710 and the number cured 1,819. The number of out-patients was, males 31,802, and female 16,868. The number of suicides attended was 756 of whom 538 were saved. Suicides treated at their homes 122. The number of surgical operations 5,937; number of opium patients 691; number of patients seen in the country and out-stations, 10,865.

Many other items of interest were given, but this will serve to show the extent of the actual medical work. The influence of a hospital is general and far-reaching and it is difficult to estimate the effect of such an establishment in the centre of a large population. We all regret the necessity for the departure of our friends, but we think that they well deserve a furlough after such long, constant, trying and efficient service.

29th April.

SEOUL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Denny's connection with the Korean government is over, as appears by the following very terse announcement in the *Official Gazette*:—"Vice-President Denny of the Home Office came to us at our call. His term now having expired, his position is hereby taken away from him."

Thus it appears that Yuan has conquered, aided, it is said, by certain claims for interest on his unpaid salary made by Mr. Denny, at which the King was displeased, but I merely give you this as a rumour. It is also stated that General Le Gendre, who is Mr. Denny's successor, has been instructed to arrange the loan from Japan of \$1,500,000, which I mentioned to you before. It is very doubtful if he will succeed in obtaining it after all. Mr. Denny's engagement ceased on the 15th of April, its agreed term, so that there has been no rupture, but his engagement has not been renewed.

23rd April.

TIENTSIN.

(From the *Chinese Times*.)

The rumour is afloat that the Imperial Government is considering at the present moment a project for the construction of a railroad from Tungechow via Shan-hai Kwan to Mo Kao Ying, near the port of Newchwang. It is further stated that Wu Nan Kao, Director of the Tientsin-Kaiping railroad, and Tao Pao-kwei, a General, have been appointed to travel over the country to be traversed by the railroad in order to find out particulars respecting the best track for the proposed line.

Of the Hankow-Lu-kou-chiao line nothing is mooted, and in all probability nothing will be done until Chang Chih-tung will have manufactured his first rail of Chinese iron ore.

The Foreign Ministers were invited to a funeral ceremony at the house of the Marquis Tseng on Tuesday, when a very just eulogium of the deceased and sympathy with his family were expressed by H.E. Mr. von Brandt. This incident, which seems so simple in itself, is such an innovation on Chinese traditions that it speaks as highly for the courage of the late Marquis's family as analogous acts in his life-time did for his own.

His Excellency Liu Ming-chuan, Governor of Formosa, has been appointed to the post on the Board of Admiralty left vacant by the demise of the Marquis Tseng.

The influenza epidemic is spreading pretty fast among the Chinese both in Tientsin and Peking, and is causing serious interruption to business, both official and commercial. So far we have not heard of any very bad cases, but the Chinese recover slowly, owing partly to their poor resources in the way of convalescents' food.

The *Reuca*, British barque, has at length succeeded in getting away from Tientsin, thanks to the dogged perseverance of her Captain. Such an accident must be of rare, possibly unique occurrence, as a vessel being blockaded in a river by silt so suddenly as to render escape impossible. The *Reuca*, in order to get to the Tientsin Bund, had to be lightened to 10ft. 6in., and after lying for about fifteen days she was unable to get out drawing only 8 feet. For a week or more, with four tugs and all her ballast out, she struggled with the mud, gaining occasionally a few yards and slewing round and round, but unable to force a channel. Everything was taken out of her, topmasts sent alongside, and the draught eventually reduced to 7ft. 5in., when she was dragged over the obstacle on Wednesday night.

There is no improvement in the condition of the river. The water in the Tientsin Reach is in depth 6ft. at low and 7ft. 7in. at high water. And it would appear that there is less water at Pao-tong-kao than last year, as three steamers, the *Haeting Cito*, and *Peiching* have been ashore this week below the Customs station there.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Number 9 of volume II of the *Journal of the Peking Oriental Society* has just been published and contains an article on Li T'ai-po with examples of his poetry by Dr. Edkins, and an article entitled *Programme de l'Histoire de Chine par L. Verhaeghe de Naeyer*. The printing goes on very slowly at the Pei T'ang press. The Society has papers in hand to keep the press going at the present rate for eighteen months. All papers read are supposed to be the property of the Society. It has been resolved in the Council to decide whether a paper shall be published at its first meeting after it has been read. Several important papers which the Society would have been glad to publish have found their way into the columns of the press or the *Recorder*. It has been proposed to remit one year's subscription

which is in arrears and to reduce the subscription of non-resident members to \$2 which will be sufficient to cover the expense of printing the Journal. Among the next papers to be printed is a translation of the annual reports on population sent up by the Board of Revenue to the Throne. This will give the official view of the vexed question. We believe the author of the paper is one who has access to such sources of information.

Messrs. Dyer and Robbins have arrived and are preparing their memorial to the Chinese Government on the Opium Question. At the last meeting of the Missionary Association Col. Denby read an interesting paper on the Life of Dr. Wells Williams. Thereafter Mr. Robbins from Bombay gave a short address on India and answered a large number of queries which were put to him. Dr. Martin at one of the Sunday evening services gave a review of his experiences of 40 years in China. We learn that Dr. and Mrs. Martin intend to leave next week for a short trip to the United States. Dr. Martin expects to return to resume his duties at the college in September next year. His absence will be much felt next winter in the literary and intellectual atmosphere of Peking, particularly at the Oriental Society. Monsieur Frandin read a paper in French at the Society meeting at the Japanese Legation on the 25th on tea, its culture and manufacture. On the evening of the 28th a concert took place at the German Legation before a distinguished audience, when Professor Terschak and Madame Schuller acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of all present. The entertainment was most enjoyable. The two gentlemen from Bombay have left Peking for Tientsin. They expect to have an interview with the Viceroy; to have the expression of his views on the opium question and to arrange for transmission of the memorials with which they are charged. The sudden and unexpected decease of the Marquis Tseng prevented them from having the interview which had been arranged for. The Russian Doctor Velitchkovsky has left Peking for Russia. The Emperor paid his visit to the tombs and has returned. While absent from the city, the gates were closed very much earlier to the great discomfort of the citizens. Since His Majesty's return, the gates have remained longer open to make up for the inconvenience formerly felt. The Viceroy returned direct to Tientsin and did not return to the capital. The extra examination for the Doctorate is now taking place. The last examination for the highest degree took place last year at this time, but owing to the Emperor's accession, his marriage and his reaching his twentieth year in Chinese, all the grades of degrees have had an extra examination.

Several missionaries from this district have started to be present at the General Conference in Shanghai. Two families, Sheffield and McCoys, are on their way to America.

I must reserve a special letter for notice of the sad decease of the Marquis Tseng.

April 29th.

YOKOHAMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

But for the ill weather which prevailed in the forenoon of Tuesday last, what was perhaps the most interesting ceremony of the week would have been far more numerously attended; as it was, a large number were present in response to Bishop Bickersteth's invitation to witness the laying of the foundation stone of St. Hilda's Hospital at Azabu, Tokio, by H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught. And those who braved the uncertainties of the weather were richly rewarded, as the enjoyment of all was heightened just before the hour fixed for the ceremony by the unlooked-for appearance of the sun's warm rays. Punctually at three their

Royal Highnesses, attended by the officials of H.B.M.'s Legation, drew up at the gate, where they were received by the Bishop and his Chaplain, the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley, by whom they were escorted to the position of the stone. Among those present on the unique occasion were H.B.M.'s Minister, and the Ministers of France, Germany, and Austria, the German Consul-General, the Master of Napier, Mr. Justice Hannen, Sir Edwin Arnold, Bishop Nicolai (of the Greek Church), Archdeacon Shaw, Professors Toyama, Yatabe, Kikuchi and Fenolosa, Baron von Siebold, Drs. Cochran, Macdonald, and Baelz, Captain Inglis, R.N., and a large and influential gathering of Tokio and Yokohama foreign residents. After the singing of the national anthem and a brief introductory service, Bishop Bickersteth presented a silver trowel to her Royal Highness, who thereupon spread the mortar and declared the foundation stone "well and truly laid." One exceptionally pleasing feature of the afternoon's attractions was the presentation to her Royal Highness by the little daughter of Lieut. T. H. James, of Tokio, of a charming bouquet. After enjoying some refreshments, and chatting for a time with several present, their Highnesses returned to the Legation. The Hospital is to be conducted in connection with the branch of the English Church Mission known as the St. Hilda's Mission, which already has important and extensive educational work under its control. The precise dimensions and scope of the buildings depend upon the success attending the efforts now being put forth for the raising of additional funds, but there is happily very little probability that the hopes of the enthusiastic projectors, the zealous Bishop and his able coadjutors, will have to be curtailed. The mere fact that the foundation stone of the Institution was laid by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught will attract attention both here and at home, and while attracting attention at the same time win contributions.

Precisely one week since, the first instalment of the new Codes was given to an expectant public. The instalment consisted of the sections comprising the Civil Code as related to the law of property, and the Code of Civil Procedure. It was issued in book form as a supplement to the *Official Gazette* of the 21st instant. When it is mentioned that the form numbers between five and six hundred different articles, and the latter somewhat more than eight hundred, it will be perceived that it is impossible to give even the merest sketch of the contents of the Codes. Doubtless English translations will be forthcoming ere long. Five days later another portion of the Codes was issued, the Commercial Code. This comprises 1,064 articles divided into three books. This too was sent out from the *Official Gazette* Bureau. The following particulars of the contents of the Code I take from this morning's *Mail*, as they will doubtless be of considerable interest to North-China readers. "Book I. relates to Commerce in General and treats of 1, Commercial Matters and Commercial Trades; 2, Commercial Registers; 3, Firm or Business Names; 4, Trade Books; 5, Trade Procurators and Assistants; 6, Commercial Partnerships and Companies, and associations for carrying on business on joint account; 7, Commercial Contracts; 8, Commercial Agents, Brokers, Commission Agents, Forwarding Agents, and Carriers; 9, Purchase and Sale; 10, Credit; 11, Insurance; and 12, Bills of Exchange, Promissory notes, and Cheques. Book II deals with Maritime Commerce, under the following heads:—1, Ships; 2, Shipowners; 3, Ships' Creditors; 4, Masters and Seamen; 5, Contract of Freightment; 6, Average; 7, Bottomry; 8, Insurance; and 9, Prescription. The Third Book deals with Bankruptcy, thus:—1, Adjudication of Bankruptcy; 2, Effect of Bankruptcy; 3, Right of Separation; 4,

Precautionary Measures; 5, Administration and Realisation of the Estate; 6, Creditors; 7, Composition; 8, Distribution; 9, Penal Bankruptcy; 10, Personal Consequences of Bankruptcy; 11, Respite. The Code embodying the law of property is to go into operation on the 1st of January, 1893, whilst the Code of Civil Procedure and the Commercial Code are to take effect on the 1st of January next. As the *Japan Mail* observes, eight months is little enough time for the judges to become conversant with all the intricacies and bearings of such important final instruments. The *Mail* further questions the soundness of declaring one part operative long prior to the other, but while recognising the possible inconvenience and danger of practically withholding sections which may have a direct reference to other sections put into effect very much earlier, and consequently amplify and complete them, it admits, with that humility and simplicity which not infrequently characterise it when dealing with governmental affairs, that these are matters for experts to decide.

Accidents and disasters indeed appear to come in couples or trios as a rule. Scarcely had the *Glendon* been towed into Yokosuka harbour, wrecked, when news arrived of the running on shore of the Blue Funnel liner *Ulysses*, 1,475 tons register, and commanded by Captain Butler. As stated in my telegram the steamer sailed from this for Kobe on Sunday morning. Meeting with strong head winds and being light she laid to in the vicinity of Rock Island most of Sunday, resuming her voyage at daylight on Monday. All went well until shortly after eleven o'clock on Monday night, when the ship suddenly took the rocks near Miyazaki point, about twenty miles north-east of Oosima Light at the entrance of the Kii Channel. Earliest accounts indicated that the disaster occurred on the Kobe side of Oosima, but later intelligence makes it clear that the *Ulysses* was lost at about the same spot where the *Shire* Line s.s. *Carnarvonshire* went on shore and ultimately to pieces almost exactly seven years ago. The *Carnarvonshire* (not the *Carmarthenshire*, as stated in the excellent account of the *Ulysses* disaster which appeared in to-day's *Japan Mail*) was lost in April, 1883, and it was not far from the same place that the Mitsui Bishi mail s.s. *Kuorio Maru* was wrecked. It is known that the currents at some seasons set vessels in most dangerously. Thick and hazy weather (some accounts mention foggy weather) prevailed at the time. The *Mail's* account already referred to gives "the narrows of Isumi Strait, not far from the Tominaga light" as the position of the disaster, but this can hardly be correct, as in the first place the steamer could not possibly have got so far from Rock Island in, say, 18 hours, and in the second place the scene of the *Carnarvonshire's* loss, which is referred to as being close by, is on the eastern coast of Kii, not far from the coast town of Singo. The ill-fated vessel was steaming over 12 knots at the time she struck, and it took but a very short while to realise that there was no prospect whatever of releasing her from her perilous position. Crew and passengers remained on board until morning dawned, however, and then landed, the Japanese on shore, officials, and the people generally, doing everything that it was possible for them to do to relieve the necessities of the ship's company and to help save effects and so forth. The major portion of the crew, including the second and third officers, the second, third, and fourth engineers and the doctor, arrived here in the *Mogul*, which purposely called at the wreck in the hope of being able to render assistance, on the 25th instant. Captain Butler, the chief officer, chief engineer, chief steward, boatswain, carpenter and one or two others of the crew remain by the vessel. The marked consideration and active kindness of the Japanese of the district has elicited graceful public acknowledgment

on the part of the "members of the crew of the *Ulysses*."

The repeated shocks of earthquake which unsettled many of our residents on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week, appear to have had their counterpart at other localities. A late arrival from the island of Iuiyagi (one of the chain of islands stretching to the south from Idzu Peninsula) reports great excitement and alarm amongst the inhabitants, who were camping out on account of the startling frequency of the shocks. Upwards of seventy distinct earthquakes were observed in the course of two days, the 17th and 18th. The *Official Gazette* of this date has a note on the subject, from which it seems that the shocks were most severely felt on the two islands, both volcanic, Nijima and Shikinejima, lying close to Miyagisima. No particular damage was done apparently, and the greatest fear would appear to have been lest a volcanic eruption should take place.

Two very successful theatrical performances were given here last week by some of the juvenile members of the community. *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Alice in Wonderland* were the pieces selected for the youthful debutants, all of whom won especial credit. Large and appreciative audiences rewarded the efforts of the young people on both occasions. The interest of the evening performance was much heightened by the presence of the excellent band of H. I. G. M.'s ship *Leipzig*.

28th April.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES

10th and 11th April.

PIRACY AND CRIME IN THE PROVINCE OF KUANGTUNG. MEASURES ADOPTED FOR ITS REPRESSION.

The Viceroy at Canton remarks that the three districts of Nan-hai, P'an-yü and Hsunté, which comprise the Prefecture of Canton, have always been notorious for piracy and other crimes. When in need of supplies the marauders make their raids in crowds of boats, and when they have seized their spoil hoist their sails and make their escape. They resist any attempts made by the Imperial troops to capture them, and often resort to bloodshed and murder. They have established regularly organised societies, and levy blackmail at stated periods on all the trading classes of the community. If their demands are in the least resented they have recourse to arson or pillage. The whole circumstances connected with piracy and the support which it receives from the ill-disposed among the gentry have been so fully and clearly set forth at different times by memorialist's predecessor, Chang Chih-tung, that it is unnecessary to dwell further upon them at present. Last autumn additional boats were equipped for service against the pirates, and the preventive service in the three districts above alluded to was placed under the control of Captain Huang Chin-fu. The memorialist during his previous tenure of office at Canton had ample opportunity of learning the havoc wrought by pirates, and since he took up his present appointment, he made searching enquiries on the subject, the result of which has been to convince him that the repression of this form of crime is the most important question awaiting solution at the present moment. For this purpose he considered it essential to select a thoroughly competent officer to take supreme command over the whole preventive service, and his choice has fallen upon Fang Yao, the naval Commander-in-chief stationed at the Bogue, and who, from long experience, is intimately acquainted with all the water-ways of the province. Fang Yao entered upon his new duties towards the end of last year, and up to the date of

writing he and his staff had succeeded in capturing no less than 75 pirates, 46 of whom being old offenders suffered summary decapitation. The practice of levying blackmail has been put an end to, and supplies being thus cut off piracy has ceased to be a profitable occupation, and attracts fewer adherents. Memorialist has received a despatch from the Board instructing him to withdraw a number of the vessels employed in this service, but, in order to guard against a revival of piracy in its former proportions, he proposes to retain 600 members of the crews to ensure continuance of the preventive work.

REWARD FOR GOOD SERVICE TO THE HOPPO OF CANTON.

The present Hoppo at Canton, Chang-yu, has been in office for more than two years, during which time his administration of the Customs has been attended with great success. In addition to making all the usual remittances he forwarded during his first year of office a further sum of Tls. 45,340, while last year he supplied a similar extra remittance of Tls. 45,380, making in all Tls. 90,720. Besides the above he subscribed Tls. 10,000 for the assistance of the suffering caused by the breach at Chêngchou, Tls. 500 and Tls. 600 for the relief of the distress in Kiangsu and Shantung respectively, and, in response to a telegram received from the Board, furnished from the Customs Revenue Tls. 1,095,000 to meet the pressing necessity connected with the repair of the breach at Chêngchou. He has dealt with all international questions in a conciliatory spirit; and in accordance with the precedent established in the case of several of his predecessors, the Viceroy suggests that favourable notice should be taken of his services by the Throne.—*By the Rescript attached to this memorial Ch'ang-yu is appointed an expectant Director of one of the three courts attached to the Household Department.*

12th April.

APPEALS TO THE EMPEROR.

A Decree consigning to the camp department of the Board of Punishments, for rigorous interrogation, ten individuals, among them a priest and three women, who have presented petitions to his Majesty.

INSPECTION OF GINSENG-PRODUCING DISTRICTS IN MANCHURIA.

The Military Governor of Kirin reports that the regulation quarterly inspections of the ginseng-producing districts in the neighbourhood of Kirin, Ninguta, Sansing, and Altch'ukha, have been duly held at the appointed seasons, and that no cases of illicit gathering of the root have occurred during the past year.

RETURNS ON LIVE STOCK AND HOUSE PROPERTY DUTIES IN PEKING.

The Superintendent of the Customs Collectorate of the Left Wing of the Peking Banner, who is charged with the collection of Live-stock and House-property duty in the capital, reports the result of his administration for the year ending 2nd March last. The amount levied upon cattle has been Tls. 20,602.15 and the duties on house-property came to Tls. 2,158.68. The standard amount that should be collected under the head of duty on live-stock is Tls. 10,008, which, deducted from the former item, leaves Tls. 10,594.15. Out of this the sum of Tls. 6,145.24 was expended on fodder, etc., for sacrificial animals, office and other expenses, leaving Tls. 4,448.91 towards the regulation "supplementary amount," which, however, is fixed at Tls. 18,000. This deficit of Tls. 13,551.09 is due, the Superintendent of Customs states, to the small numbers of live-stock kept of late years in Mongolia, Manchuria, etc., and last year in particular on account of the inundations in various parts of the country. Dealers have also experienced difficulty in finding a ready sale for their cattle, and this, coupled with the great difference between the value of silver and the price of

fodder in Peking and in the country, has prevented their showing any great enterprise in the trade. The remission of duty on cavalry mounts, and the prohibition against the marketing of horses in Peking, issued some years ago at the instance of the Board of War, have also tended to diminish the receipts under this head. By an Imperial Decree issued in 1853 the Superintendents of Customs were required to levy the full regulation amount of duties instead of paying over only so much as they had been able to collect, but in the event of a deficit which could be shewn to have been unavoidable, report was to be made accordingly by the Superintendents when submitting their accounts on the expiry of their year of office, when the case would be considered by the Board of Revenue and referred to the decision of His Majesty. Memorialist's term of office having now expired, he will of course make good the deficit of Tls. 13,551.09, for the collection of which he is answerable. In conclusion he appends details showing a balance in hand of Tls. 3,231 odd under the head of supplementary or regulation excess account, and solicits His Majesty's instructions as to the disposal of this sum.—*Rescript already recorded.*

APPLICATION FOR RETENTION OF SERVICES OF TELEGRAPH OFFICIAL.

The Viceroy at Canton applies for sanction to retain for service in the province a major named Wu Shih-ch'ing, at present employed in the Telegraph Office at Ch'inchow. On the introduction of telegraphs this officer was transferred to the Canton province and charged with the transmission of military messages, in which post he acquitted himself most creditably. He also rendered good service in the operations against the aborigines of Hainan. There is a great demand for officers throughout the province, and as in the course of his connection with the telegraph service he has acquired a thorough knowledge of local conditions, memorialist submits that his retention for further service in Kuangtung would be both desirable and expedient.—*Sanctioned by Rescript.*

13th April.

SUPPLIANTS TO HIS MAJESTY.

Two Decrees commanding that a number of individuals who have presented applications to His Majesty by the roadway be taken in hand by the Board of Punishments.

FURTHER GRATUITIES TO IMPERIAL CHAIR BEARERS.

A Decree ordaining that an ingot of silver of one tael's weight be given from the Treasury of the Privy Purse to each of the chair-bearers in attendance upon His Majesty and the Empress-Dowager during the recent Imperial journey.

RETURNS OF LIVE STOCK AND HOUSE PROPERTY DUTIES IN PEKING.

The superintendent of the Customs Collectorate for the western division of Peking reports that during the year ending 2nd March last the regulation fixed amount of duties on Live Stock and House Property has been collected in full, but that there is a deficit in the collection under the head of supplementary levy. His receipts came to Tls. 19,084 odd, and his disbursements Tls. 17,938 odd, leaving a balance of Tls. 1,145 towards the supplementary amount. As this, however, is fixed at Tls. 7,321, there appears a deficit under this head of Tls. 6,176, which memorialist attributes to the stagnation in the cattle-trade consequent on the distress caused by inundation in the metropolitan province, and to an epidemic that attacked the herds of swine last winter; partly also to the difference in the value of silver in Peking and in the country, which made dealers hesitate about bringing their animals in for sale.

CASE OF PARRICIDE BY A LUNATIC.

The High Authorities of the Manchurian province of Fêng Tien, in a joint memorial, submit the result of the trial of a lunatic

named Lu Yang-ch'un for the murder of his father. The criminal was a native of the province of Chihli, whence he had migrated to the P'eng-hua district, working there as a labourer and living with his father on a footing of filial obedience. His madness first showed itself in May, 1889, but as the attacks were intermittent and he was quite harmless his relations and neighbours refrained from making thereport prescribed by law to the district authorities, and he was never placed under restraint. Coming home from his work one day, he met his father on the road, and they proceeded on their way together, when the son was suddenly seized with an access of madness and began to leap and dance about in the road. In order to prevent any public disturbance, the father called upon him to leave off and come home, whereupon the madman, unconscious of what he was doing, attacked his father with a stick, hitting him over the head and face, and knocking him down by a blow on the back of the head, from the effects of which he died shortly after. Hearing the father's cries for help a villager came to the rescue, and the madman was eventually secured and brought before the district Magistrate. Here he behaved and spoke in such a senseless way, his language being quite incoherent, that a doctor was called to examine into his condition. He was pronounced insane, and was ordered to be placed under medical treatment. On his recovery he was removed to the provincial capital for trial before the superior authorities. Here all the facts were fully established, and the criminal unreservedly confessed to the commission of the murder, it being ascertained further that his lunacy was not feigned. In conformity with the statute relating to parricide he has been sentenced to suffer death by the lingering process; and as the scene of the murder is upwards of 300 li distant from the place of final trial, the execution will be carried into effect, in accordance with the provisions of the law, at the provincial capital itself, the head of the parricide being forwarded to the scene of the crime to be exposed as a public warning. His brother and the neighbouring villagers who neglected the duty imposed on them by law of making report of the lunatic's condition to the district authority have been sentenced to undergo the prescribed penalty of 100 blows.—*Referred to the Board of Punishments.*

A BANISHED OFFICIAL ALLOWED TO RETURN.

The High Authorities of the Amur province represent that Liu Tao-tung, who was banished to the Amur in 1880 for having permitted the massacre of certain prisoners by the troops under his command, has during the years that have elapsed since then been filled with the deepest remorse, and has striven to make atonement for his former misdeeds. Some three years ago, having applied to be allowed to return from exile, he was commanded to prefer his request again after the lapse of three years. The prescribed term expired on the 1st February, 1890, and during this period Liu Tao-tung has attended to his duties with increased diligence, and has strenuously endeavoured to amend his ways. Memorialists therefore again solicit on his behalf permission to return from banishment.—*Sanctioned by Rescript.*

14th April.

MALPRACTICES AMONG PROVINCIAL GENTRY.

A Decree censuring the common practice among the provincial gentry and literati of mixing themselves up in matters of public business, and sometimes even bringing pressure to bear on the authorities with a view to the furtherance of schemes ostensibly for the public good, but in reality designed for selfish purposes of their own. The Provincial Governments are directed to give orders to all subordinate authorities to strictly suppress all abuses of the kind, denouncing forthwith any individual un-

scrupulous enough and so devoid of all sense of self-respect as to repeat the offence in spite of these injunctions. It constantly happens also that the metropolitan officials who have the privilege of addressing the Throne on matters affecting their native districts, submit representations which on examination prove to be either altogether impracticable, or else totally unfounded. By law this in itself subjects them to a penalty, besides which they should, in matters relating to their own provinces, naturally be in a position to obtain the very best information, and for this reason it is specially incumbent on them to ascertain the real facts instead of importuning the Throne with haphazard complaints which they are unable to substantiate. The Board of Civil Office will therefore consider and report as to the form of severe penalty to be inflicted in cases of this description. It rests entirely with the high provincial authorities to set an example in their own persons to their subordinates, faithfully devoting themselves to the task of government, avoiding any show of favouritism, and dealing with all questions that come before them in a just and impartial spirit. Their subordinates and the gentry class will thus have no opportunity of unduly arrogating authority to themselves, whilst those who have the right of addressing the Throne will find nothing to take exception to. His Majesty positively enjoins upon all Governors-General and Governors of provinces to rouse themselves to activity, carefully keeping watch over the conduct of the official class, and enabling the people to pursue their avocations in peace and comfort, that thus the government of the country may day by day attain more nearly to a state of perfection. Condign punishment will be meted out to those who continue to indulge in the practice of dishonest misrepresentation, and pursue the evil ways that have hitherto prevailed.

PUNISHMENT OF A GAOL-WARDEN FOR PERMITTING THE ESCAPE OF A PRISONER.

A Decree ordering the dismissal of the policeman in charge of the gaol at Shih-ch'ian in the province of Shensi, who is to be placed on his trial for having allowed a certain criminal to escape. The Governor of the province is to satisfy himself as to whether or no his escape was connived at by the said police-master or his subordinates, and to pass sentence upon them accordingly. The district Magistrate of Shih Ch'ian, notwithstanding his assertion that he was absent on duty at the time, is to be committed to the Board for the determination of a penalty, and a limited time is to be assigned for the recapture of the escaped criminal.

DEATH OF THE MARQUIS TSUNG.

A Decree.—Tsung Chi-tsé, Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, was a man of tried capacity and far-seeing mind, devoted to his duty and able in the conduct of affairs. Commencing his career in the ranks of the civil service in the capital, he succeeded to the title of Marquis of the first class, and was nominated by special Decree of His Majesty the late Emperor T'ung Chih expectant of office as a sub-director of one of the minor metropolitan Courts, with rank of the fourth or fifth degree. After Our accession to the Throne he was repeatedly singled out for advancement and promoted to high office. Selected for the post of Minister abroad he cemented Our relations with friendly Powers, and by his intimate knowledge of affairs, disposed of all questions he had to deal with to Our perfect satisfaction. At a later period he was appointed member of the Tsung-li Yamén and attached to the Board of Admiralty, in both of which posts he devoted himself to the conscientious discharge of his functions. Having recently been attacked by a slight indisposition, We granted him leave of absence from his duty for the benefit of his health, and it was Our hope that he would speedily become restored, and that We

might long continue to have the benefit of his services. The sudden intelligence of his decease has filled Us with profound sorrow. As a special act of favour We command that the brevet title of Junior Guardian of the Heir-Apparent be conferred upon him, with the posthumous distinctions usual in the case of a Vice-President of a Board. All the penalties he may have incurred in the course of his career are hereby remitted, and the proper department will examine the regulations and report to Us concerning the awards to which he is posthumously entitled. With regard to his sons, We ordain that Tsung Kuang-luan be brought before Us, on the expiry of the prescribed period of mourning, for presentation in audience, and that Tsung Kuang-ch'uan, a Junior Secretary of the Board of War, be awarded the rank of Second class Secretary of a Board. In this wise may be made manifest Our desire to bear in earnest remembrance a loyal servant of the Throne.

CASE OF BIGAMY.

The Viceroy of Chihli reports the result of an enquiry into the case of Chang Han, a Secretary by purchase in the Board of War, who was denounced and brought to trial at the instance of the Prefect of Yungping Fu under the following circumstances. In 1881 the accused was living at Ch'ien-an, his native place, on leave of absence, when his wife fell sick and he conceived the idea of marrying again. Hearing that a certain Tung Wang-ch'ing had an unmarried daughter, he got a friend of his named Yen Te-ch'eng to act as go-between, and induced him by a bribe to represent that he, Chang Han, was a widower. The father, believing this statement, accepted Chang Han's proposal, the usual betrothal presents were sent, and the girl went to live at his house, but there were no formal marriage or other documents drawn up. For his services in the matter Yen Te-ch'eng received Tls. 100. As soon as the girl discovered the fraud that had been practised she was naturally very indignant, and frequent quarrels occurred between the pair, till one day Chang Han lost his temper, and belaboured her over the back with a stick, proceeding next to scald her feet with boiling water. In consequence of this she communicated privately with her father, who came and took her away. Chang Han having made several unsuccessful attempts to get her back, finally determined to carry her off by force. For this purpose he hired a cart and a number of men, and having loaded the cart with a quantity of swords and other weapons the band proceeded to the district city, where they put up with Yen Te-ch'eng, and in one of the inns. As soon as the District Magistrate heard of this he caused Chang Han and Yen Te-ch'eng to be arrested, whilst at the same time Tung Wan-ch'ing brought his daughter to the yamén and laid a formal complaint. The parties were eventually released on bail, when Chang Han, being afraid of the consequences of his proceedings, took the opportunity to abscond. Just before this time there occurred the funeral of Her late Majesty the Empress-Dowager, when the Magistrate was called upon to provide the men and horses required. Chang Han not having been invited to co-operate in the matter, had proceeded to the Magistrate's yamén, where he asserted that an excessive number of men and horses were being requisitioned, and told the district headmen that they need not supply them. This accusation he subsequently repeated before the Prefect. The above facts having been duly reported by the district authorities, orders were given for Chang Han's arrest, and he finally gave himself up in May, 1888. Under the statute relating to attempts at coercing the authorities, he is sentenced to receive 100 blows with the bamboo, and to be banished for three years to a military station, the fact of his voluntary surrender on the one hand, and on the other that he

held an official position, having been duly taken into consideration.—*Referred to the Board of Punishments.*

15th April.

Court Circular. The Board of Ceremonies request that a day be fixed for the change from winter to summer hats.—*Rescript: Let it be on the 2nd May.*

APPLICATION FOR REWARDS FOR SUCCESSFUL YELLOW RIVER WORKS.

In accordance with previous sanction, the Viceroy of Chihli submits an application for rewards to a number of officers who in the years 1887-89, distinguished themselves by their successful efforts to prevent the occurrence of breaches in the Yellow River banks in the Tungming district. In consequence of the formation of extensive shoals on the Northern side of the river, the Southern bank has become more exposed to the force of the current, and has of late years showed signs of giving way in several places. During the spring and summer freshets of 1887, the gravest fears were entertained, and it was only after the disaster at Ch'engchou that all danger could be considered past. In the following summer, during the heavy freshets, the embankments trembled with the force of the swollen torrent thundering past, and work had to be carried on night and day to prevent their being swept away. When the breach at Ch'engchou was finally closed in the succeeding winter the whole volume of water was compelled to flow to the northward, and the pressure on the exposed surfaces of the groins became something tremendous. In the course of the works some 200,000 cubic *fang* of earth were excavated and piled on to the embankments at the weak spots. In 1889 again several portions of the embankments were in a most dangerous condition, and a large number of groins had to be repaired or entirely reconstructed, whilst at one point a stretch of bank several *chang* in length suddenly collapsed and disaster seemed imminent until by dint of unremitting exertions the danger was averted. These services demanded of the officers and men engaged qualities is no wise inferior to those displayed in time of war, and memorialist therefore submits an application for rewards to those who more particularly distinguished themselves throughout the period in question. Hitherto there have been no river works at Ta Ming, and the services of a number of officers and men had to be borrowed for the purpose. These have also been included among the lists of those whose names are now submitted.—*Referred to the Board.*

APPLICATION FOR REWARDS TO OFFICERS ENGAGED AT THE GOLD MINES IN THE AMUR PROVINCE.

In a postscript memorial the Viceroy of Chihli applies for the grant of honorary distinctions on the highest possible scale to an officer named Yao Yu-sung, who has been employed at the Moho gold mines in the Amur province, and who died recently in consequence of over-exertion in the discharge of his duties. He was formerly employed in the Telegraph department at Kirin, and rendered eminent services in that capacity, for which he has never yet received any mention. Another officer in the accountant's office at the Moho mines is also named as being worthy of some form of reward.—*Sanctioned by Rescript.*

PRINCE YI RENEWS HIS REQUEST TO BE ALLOWED TO RETIRE.

A further memorial from Tsai Tun (Prince Yi), praying that he be allowed to retire without a pension, on account of ill-health. He was recently granted a month's leave of absence, and though he has now recovered to a slight extent, he still suffers pains in the back and legs, which prevent his getting about. His asthma is no better than before, and as his malady seems to preclude all hope of a speedy recovery he begs to be allowed to vacate his appointment. On no account

would he venture to lead a life of idle ease, and the moment he is able to stand further employment he will solicit of His Majesty the favour of renewed appointment.—*Rescript already published.*

ARREARS DUE BY SALT DEPARTMENT OF CHILLI.

At the instance of the Imperial Household Department the Viceroy of Chihli was recently called upon to furnish Tls. 100,000, towards the expenses of the Imperial journey to the Eastern Tombs out of the arrears due by the Ch'ang Lu Salt Gabelle of Chihli. The Salt Commissioner has, however, represented to memorialist that as long ago as 1848 it was found impossible to recover from the monopolists the advances of capital made to them, and those now engaged in the trade object to be saddled with the debts of their predecessors. The salt market has been considerably hampered of late years by natural calamities, so that the arrears are now heavier than ever, and the distress of the merchants more aggravated than before. Every year when the time comes to remit the revenue collected, a temporary postponement has invariably to be applied for, and even then the whole amount is only got together with great difficulty. If in addition the merchants are called on to refund the interest on treasury advances, the only result will be to reduce them to distress without extinguishing the debt. This debt, which as a matter of fact does not amount to Tls. 100,000, is due solely by reason of the merchants being in arrears with the payments, and not to the money having been retained in the Treasury. On former occasions when funds have been required for similar Imperial journeys, recourse has been had to the expedient of diverting sums from other quarters. Under the circumstances it is impossible to recover the arrears due by the merchants, but memorialist has succeeded in raising a sum of Tls. 30,000 of which one-half, or Tls. 15,000, is on account of arrears, the other half being for interest accrued during the present year. The balance for this year will be forwarded as soon as collected.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 22nd April, 1890, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor (Chairman), M. Adler, D. Brand, D. C. Jansen, W. McDonald, J. Welch, G. H. Wheeler and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and Police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Volunteers. Inspection Parade.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 18th April, 1890.

SIR,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Municipal Council, that I inspected the Volunteers, on the completion of their annual training on the 12th inst.

The Corps paraded under the command of Major Morrison. Its appearance was very satisfactory and the men were steady under arms.

The Light Horse turned out well and their riding and drill were good.

The movements of the battery of field Artillery were well executed and the guns, harness, &c., are in good condition.

The marching of the infantry was good and the manual and firing exercises were fairly well done.

The field manoeuvres which subsequently took place were most creditable, the position being well taken up by the different arms, and the attack of the infantry was well delivered.

The state of the Corps and the good feeling which exists between all ranks, reflect much credit upon Major Morrison and the officers and non-commissioned officers under his command.

I would point out the desirability of perfecting the musketry instruction, and that no efforts should be spared to practice—when ever possible—what is now known as field firing.

The reserve ammunition for the guns and rifles should be increased, as the present stock would not be sufficient to meet a serious demand upon the services of the Corps.

I would also impress upon the Corps that good gun practice and rifle shooting—coupled with a few simple movements—are far more useful than elaborate drill.

In conclusion I beg you will carry to the Municipal Council, and through it to the Corps, the great pleasure it has given me to make this inspection, and to find the Corps in such an efficient state.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. BEVAN EDWARDS,

Major General,

Comd. the Troops in China.

J. MACGREGOR, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Shanghai, 22nd April, 1890.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated 18th instant, conveying for the information of the Municipal Council the result of your inspection of the Shanghai Volunteers.

The favourable report which you have been able to make affords much satisfaction to the Council, and I am desired to convey to you their high appreciation of the honour you have conferred upon the Corps, and the obligation under which you have laid the Council, by personally making this inspection.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN MACGREGOR,

Chairman.

To His Excellency

Major-General J. BEVAN EDWARDS,
Commanding in China.

Tienlong Road Widening.—Letter from Mr. Ken Wah is read offering to pay the Council Tls. 300 if they will take over the lease he has just made with Messrs. Iveson & Co. for 20 years of Lot 1,000 at \$70 per annum, and devote the land to public purposes giving him a frontage on it for lot 1820, during the lease, and further, that they will if possible purchase Lot 1,000, and give him a frontage over it in perpetuity.

The Chairman says that this letter was submitted to the Works Committee at their meeting on the 19th inst. when they decided to recommend the Council to accept this offer, as the Tienlong road requires to be widened, being only 21 feet at this part, and inquiries are now being made by the Surveyor as to the terms on which the lot can be acquired.

Decided to agree to this.

Lighting—Bubbling Well Road.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 17th April, 1890.

SIR,—Application having been made to us by several residents on the Bubbling Well Road to supply gas as far as the "Bubbling Well Road Cottage," my Directors would be glad to know, whether the Council, in the event of the necessary main extension being carried out, would place lamps along the road.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHR. SCHEFFELMANN,

Secretary, Shanghai Gas Co.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,

Secretary, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Decided to allow the letter to lie on the table in the meantime.

Race Holidays.—As the race meeting takes place on the 28th, 29th and 30th inst., when the Municipal Offices will be closed to public business, it is decided to have the next meeting of Council on Tuesday, the 6th May.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published with the foregoing minutes:—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES.
Shanghai, 3rd May, 1890.

Locality of Dairy	Returned	Remained last	Remarks.
Hu-Ju (New Seward Road)	7	4	1 English cow dead.
Broadway No. 3	16	8	1 Buffalo sold.
No. 4	24	10	1 Buffalo sent to country (dry).
Lee Hongkew	26	10	
Wong Road	1	1	
Sinza Village	16	11	
"	12	10	
"	20	10	
"	29	10	
Chang Young Sing and Yuen-sung	30	10	
Sung Lee and J. Shien-jao	8	4	
S. J. Ningpo Joss House (Apple)	11	4	
Overweg's Bungalow	30	12	
Lee-Fai and Lung-fai	43	30	
Zee Butler	30	30	
South of Pohn-sien-joh	43	30	
Shi-ho and Nee-sing	43	30	
Shi-ho and Dong-ko	21	13	
Luiza Bridge	15	3	
St. George's Farm and Cemetery Road	4	2	
Total	322	141	

All the animals kept at the above mentioned dairies have been inspected three times during the past week, and found to be healthy and free from disease, with the exception of the cattle kept at the Ah Chou dairy where disease broke out last week.

Submitted, J. H. GEORGE CAMERON,
Asst. Insp.

North Yangtze Road—New Pontoons.—The following letter is ordered to be published with the minutes of last meeting:—

Custom House,
Shanghai, 5th May, 1890.

SIR,—I have duly received your letter of 22nd April asking that the Harbour authorities place an injunction on work now being done by the Japanese Mail Company. This work has been undertaken by the Company solely in its own interest and for its own purposes.

When the Harbour Master was applied to he wrote to the Company stating "that as the works proposed do not seem likely to interfere with the navigation, nor to be detrimental to the conservancy of the river, there is no objection, so far as this office is concerned, to their being carried out."

The Harbour Master's position in such cases, is taken solely from the point of view of his own Department. It does not affect interests other than those in the harbour. It therefore seems unadvisable that he should take the more active steps you suggest, which would mean a departure from the line of passive non-objection laid down in his letter.

I may add that the Japanese Company have, in their correspondence promised him that they will do anything reasonable and possible to meet the convenience of the public.

Such an undertaking made to the Council—as I am told orally it will be—will I hope facilitate the arrangement between the Council and the Company which your letter anticipates.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. E. BREDON,
Commissioner of Customs.

The CHAIRMAN,
Municipal Council, Shanghai.

YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD. (IN LIQUIDATION.)

A general meeting of shareholders in the Yang-tsze Insurance Association, Limited, was held at the office of the Secretaries, Messrs. Russell & Co., on Wednesday at 2 p.m., to receive the report of the Directors and statement of accounts to 30th September, 1889, and also to receive the report of the Liquidators. There were present Messrs. C. Vincent Smith (Chairman), G. H. Wheeler, J. M. Young, E. O. Arbuthnot, and R. Simpson Shaw, (Directors); A. C. Hunter, W. S. Jackson, John Chambers, H. J. Such, H. J. Dyer, and V. D'O. Wintle (Secretary), representing 4,196 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—The only business before the meeting is to pass a resolution to be proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Young, "That the statement of account submitted to this meeting be approved and adopted." Before asking you to pass this resolution, I shall be happy to answer any questions.

No questions being put, the resolution was put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN said that concluded the business of the meeting, but he would mention that it would be well for the shareholders to send in the old certificates for exchange, as they were coming in rather slowly.

A general meeting of shareholders in the Yang-tsze Insurance Association, Limited, in liquidation, called by the liquidators, was held on Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. at the office of the Secretaries, Messrs Russell and Co., for the purpose of submitting the accounts of the Association for the nine months ending Sept. 30th, 1889. There were present Messrs C. Vincent Smith (Chairman), G. H. Wheeler, J. M. Young, E. O. Arbuthnot, R. Simpson Shaw, A. C. Hunter, W. S. Jackson, John Chambers, H. J. Such, H. J. Dyer, R. C. Renny, H. E. R. Hunter, and V. D'O. Wintle (Secretary), representing 4,948 shares.

Mr. G. H. WHEELER, one of the liquidators, said—I have to state that the account submitted by the Liquidators is the same as that passed at the previous meeting. A final meeting will be held, probably on or about July 1st, of which meeting a month's notice will be given, and at that meeting a statement of account covering the whole period of liquidation will be submitted.

The CHAIRMAN—The only item that is left out in this account is the remuneration of the Liquidators, and it is proposed by Mr. H. J. Such and seconded by Mr. John Chambers, "That the remuneration of the Liquidators for their services in the winding up be fixed at Tls. 600."

The resolution was carried and the meeting terminated.

THE YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD.

A general meeting of The Yang-tsze Insurance Association, Limited, was held at the office of the Secretaries, Messrs. Russell

& Co., on Wednesday afternoon, immediately after the meeting called by the Liquidators of the old Association, for the purpose of a statement of the position and working of the Association being laid before the shareholders. There were present Messrs. C. Vincent Smith (Chairman), G. H. Wheeler, J. M. Young, E. O. Arbuthnot, and R. Simpson Shaw (Directors); A. C. Hunter, W. S. Jackson, John Chambers, H. J. Such, H. J. Dyer, R. C. Renny, H. E. R. Hunter, E. V. Brennan, and V. D'O. Wintle (Secretary), representing 4,952 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—At the Statutory meeting held on 11th November last, the Directors intimated to you that they would lay before you in or about the month of April this year a statement of the position and working of the Association. You will of course understand that the figures now before you are estimates. The first report and working of the Association to 31st December, 1890, since its reorganisation and incorporation under the Companies' Ordinances, Hongkong, will, in accordance with the articles of association, be submitted at the ordinary general meeting in April or May, 1891. On referring to the estimated position of the reserve fund now before you, it will be noticed that the balance at credit of reserve fund, after providing for capital of \$800,000, was \$559,018.12, and now, after estimating certain receipts and payments, and deducting the cost of a dividend of \$6 a share under this account, the balance is estimated to stand at \$510,617.59. The dividend declared was as large a one as the Directors considered prudent, and preserving intact the reserve fund of at least \$500,000. In our prospectus of Feb. 20, 1889, we represented that a \$100 share in the new Association would be worth an equivalent to the then value of the old share, viz., \$100 plus proportion of Reserve, say, \$62.50 = \$162.50 = Tls. 118.62. The year 1889 must be looked upon as an unprecedentedly disastrous one to marine insurance interests. It began badly, and December 1889, also January and February, 1890, brought their full share of casualties. As for the business of the company, it is at present going on in a perfectly satisfactory way. Our premium income is increasing gradually, and with ordinary good fortune we shall do well. As this is only a statement and explanation of how we stand there is no resolution to put before the meeting, but I shall be glad to answer any questions any shareholder present may wish to ask.

No questions being asked, the meeting terminated.

Report for presentation to the general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the office of the Secretaries, on Wednesday, the 7th May, 1890, at 2 o'clock p.m., precisely.

The Directors have now to submit to the shareholders the accounts of the Association for the 9 months ending 30th September, 1889, at which date the Association was placed in the hands of the Liquidators. The net premium earned less re-insurances for the 9 months amount to Tls. 181,994.11. The balance of the underwriting account has been transferred to reserve fund. Tls. 173,493.05 represent the balance of reserve fund on 31st March, 1890. The form of balance sheet shows the assets and liabilities in taels and pounds sterling, taken over at exchange 4s. 3d.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Augustus White.

Shanghai, 22nd April, 1890.

UNDERWRITING ACCOUNT FOR THE 9 MONTHS ENDING 31ST SEPTEMBER, 1889.

	Tls.
To Claims paid less re-insurances..	131,028.14
„ Commission and charges	45,083.32
„ Directors' and Auditor's fees ...	3,083.82
„ Balance transferred to reserve fund	2,798.83

Tls. 181,994.11

Cr.	Tls.
By net premia less re-insurances ...	181,994.11
Tls.	181,994.11
E. & O. E. Shanghai, 2nd April, 1890. RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.	
Audited and found correct, AUG. WHITE, Auditor.	

Cr.	Tls.
RESERVE FUND AS ON 31st MARCH, 1890.	
Dr.	Tls.
To Payments of claims, return premia, brokerages, etc., at- count former years, less amounts recovered from re- insuring offices.....	60,829.30
„ Balance	178,493.05
Tls.	239,322.35
Cr.	Tls.
By Balance from last account	199,610.62
„ Profit on bonds	76.94
„ Interest account for 9 months ending 30th September, 1889..	36,835.96
„ Amount from underwriting ac- count	2,798.83
Tls.	239,322.35

E. & O. E. Shanghai, 2nd April, 1890. RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.	
Audited and found correct, AUG. WHITE, Auditor.	

Liabilities.	Tls.
Capital 8,000 shares at £25 each = £200,000 at 5s.....	800,000 00
Reserve fund	178,493.05
	978,493.05

Note.	Tls.
Capital	800,000.00
Amount, say difference in exchange required to bring the capital at 4s. 3d. to £200,000 ...	141,176.47
£200,000 at 4s. 3d. = Tls. 941,176.47	
Balance of reserve fund say, £7,929 15 6 at 4s. 3d. = ...	37,316.58
£207,929 15 6 at 4s. 3d. = ...	Tls. 978,493.05
Uncollected dividends and bonus...	2,274.60
Tls.	980,767.65

Assets.	Tls.
United States Government securities in London valued per telegram 1/10/89	176,188.22
American railroad bonds in London valued per telegram 1/10/89	151,764.70
Chinese Imperial Government C Loan of 1884	36,935.00
Chinese Imperial Government E Loan of 1886	26,250.00
Mortgages on real estate at Shanghai	82,000 00
Cash at bankers on 30th September, 1889	326,480.22
Less dissentient share- holders account of 1,052 shares at Tls. 108 as per arbitrators' award	113,616.00
	412,864.22
London furniture	1,000.00
Premia in course of collection	19,325.05
The Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited (Hongkong Company) ...	74,440.46
Tls.	980,767.65

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 2nd April, 1890.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Secretaries.

I hereby certify that I have examined the
above account and that I have found it to be
in accordance with the books and accounts of

the Association, and also with the documents
representing the securities.

AUG. WHITE,
Auditor.
C. VINCENT SMITH, Chairman.
G. H. WHEELER,
JAMES M. YOUNG, } Directors.
E. O. ARBUTHNOT,
R. SIMPSON SHAW, }

THE YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

Statement of the position and working of
the Association for the six months ending
31st March 1890 (estimated to 31st March
1890), for presentation to the general meet-
ing of shareholders to be held at the office of
the Secretaries, on Wednesday, the 7th May
1890, at 3 o'clock p.m., or immediately after
the meeting called by the Liquidators of the
old Association.

The Directors have now to submit to the
shareholders the estimated position of the
Association as on 31st March, 1890.

The assets taken over from
the Yang-tze Insurance
Association, Limited, in
liquidation, are

Less liabilities unclaimed di-
vidends, and bonus

Tls. 2,274.60

Total .. Tls. 978,493.05

To be appropriated as follows:—

Capital \$800,000 at ex. 72 per
cent. Tls. 576,000.00

Reserve Fund \$539,018.12

Total .. Tls. 978,493.05

Liabilities taken over, un-
claimed dividends and bon-
us \$3,159.17 at ex. 72 per
cent. Tls. 2,274.60

The Balance at credit of Reserve Fund, as
estimated to 31st March 1890, is \$510,617.69,
a dividend having been paid of \$6 a share on
the 12th March and debited this account.

The estimated profit of the underwriting
a/c for the 6 months ending 31st March is
\$27,822.96. All known losses and casualties
have been taken into consideration.

Shanghai, 24th April, 1890.

Underwriting Account for the 6 months ending
31st March, 1890.

Dr.	
To Claims, less re-insurances, paid and estimated	\$109,450.39
„ Commission and charges paid and estimated	48,031.53
„ Directors' and auditor's fees paid and accrued	1,360.00
„ Balance transferred to reserve fund as estimated Profit	27,822.96
	\$186,664.88

Cr.	
By Premia, less re-insurances, col- lected and estimated	\$186,664.88
	\$186,664.88

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 24th April, 1890.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Secretaries.

RESERVE FUND AS ON 31st MARCH 1890.

Dr.	
To Estimated payments of claims, return premia, brokerages, etc., account former years, less amounts recovered from re- insuring offices	\$ 59,331.21
„ Silver scheme account	4,310.85
„ Interest to shareholders a \$6 per share on 6,948 shares	41,688.00
„ Balance	510,617.59
	\$615,947.65

Cr.	
By Balance of account after provid- ing for capital of \$800,000	\$559,018.12
„ Interest paid and accrued	29,094.51
„ Exchange account	12.06
„ Estimated profit from under- writing account	27,822.96
	\$615,947.65

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 24th April 1890.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Secretaries.

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st MARCH, 1890.

Liabilities.	
Capital - 8,000 shares at \$100 each. \$800,000.00	
Reserve fund	510,617.59
Unclaimed dividends and bonus ...	3,159.17
Balance of sundry outstanding ac- counts	466.64
	\$1,314,243.40

Assets.	
United States Government securi- ties in London, valued per telegram 1/10/89, £37,440.....	\$244,705.86
American Railroad bonds in Lon- don, valued per telegram, 1/10/89, £32,250	210,784.31
The Trust and Loan Co. of China, Japan, and Straits, Limited, founders' shares in London, £5	32.68
Chinese Imperial Government C Loan of 1884	37,704.86
Chinese Imperial Government E Loan of 1886	55,902.78
Mortgages on real estate at Shang- hai	113,888.89
Cash at bankers	414,627.15
Policy stamps in London office ...	536.79
London Furniture	1,388.89
Unallotted Shares account (1,052 shares)	157,800.00
Due by secretaries and agents	49,308.80
Premia in course of collection	27,562.39
	\$1,314,243.40

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 24th April, 1890.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Secretaries.

I have examined the documents represent-
ing the securities as stated in the above
account and found them in order.

AUG. WHITE,
Auditor.

THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

First Day, Wednesday, 7th May.

The proceedings of the first day of the
Missionary Conference were begun with a
prayer meeting led by Rev. Henry Blodget,
D. D., of Peking, from 10.30 to 11 a.m. at
the Lyceum Theatre.

The opening sermon was preached by the
Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, of the China Inland
Mission, from Matt. xv. 32-39. The dis-
course consisted of a plain and forcible
statement of the analogy between the work
given to the disciples in feeding four thou-
sand persons with but seven loaves and a
few fishes, and that committed to the
Church of the present day in the commis-
sion to preach the Gospel to the whole
creation. Mr. Taylor is a unique person-
ality among the missionaries in China, and
great weight is attached to whatever he
says, on account of his phenomenal experi-
ence as the organiser of the great China
Inland Mission, of which he has been from
the beginning the life and the soul. Mr.
Taylor's discourse was extemporaneous and
apparently unstudied, and commanded the
closest attention of an audience which
nearly filled the body of the theatre, as
well as the first gallery. Mr. Taylor's know-
ledge of China at first hand is probably
greater than that of any member of the Mis-
sionary Conference. It is therefore a matter
of general interest to learn that so high an
authority does not put the population of
the empire at the high figure which is still
so frequently assigned. He intimated that
the estimate of two hundred and fifty
millions is the very lowest which can be
reasonably given. Mr. Taylor made an
earnest plea that a call be uttered by this
Conference for at least a thousand new
labourers to work in China, with a view to
the presentation of the Gospel to every
family in China within the present genera-
tion. Mr. Taylor has recently visited
Norway and Sweden, and is confident that
from those countries one hundred labourers

can easily be secured. He also cites letters which he has received from persons in Germany, declaring that a hundred workers could be depended upon from that country, some of whom are said to be actually secured. From Great Britain and Ireland, he thought it not too much to look for three hundred recruits, say a hundred from the Church of England, a hundred from the English, Scotch and Irish Presbyterian Churches, and an additional hundred from the great Methodist bodies of the United Kingdom. This would make five hundred from Europe. In America there are said to be nearly or quite four thousand students, who are pledged to engage in mission work in foreign lands, should the way be opened by Providence. From among such a multitude, and from so vast a continent, Mr. Taylor considers five hundred recruits a contingent absurdly small. It is Mr. Taylor's idea that this body of one thousand recruits would be able to make a beginning on the great unevangelised masses of China, at the rate of fifty families a day. It is a matter of general interest to know that so experienced, so sympathetic, and so successful a worker as Mr. Taylor, expresses his opinion that no new agencies are required for the regeneration of China, and that he has never heard of any agency at present in use which has not been greatly blessed, when rightly used. What is needed, according to this authority, is the wide extension of the agencies already in use, agencies which must be very greatly extended and developed, before the Church makes an approach to accomplishing its duty.

The conference met in the afternoon at 2.45 and was called to order by Dr. Faber, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements. Rev. Dr. Blodget was chosen temporary Chairman, and Rev. G. F. Fitch temporary Secretary. Mr. Fitch then read the roll of the members of the Conference, with the memorandum of the places to which they are assigned, a proceeding which occupied more than half an hour. It appeared that thus far the number reported as in attendance is 419, which includes the children of delegates from abroad, but not the children of those living in Shanghai. It was stated that at the Conference of 1877, the number in attendance was only 120.

The Committee of Arrangements reported certain recommendations in regard to the choice of Chairman for the Conference. The majority recommended that two permanent Chairmen be chosen, one from Great Britain and one from the United States, as was done in 1877. The minority recommended that the Chairman be changed every day, in order of seniority. The recommendation of the majority was adopted. After a great variety of nominations, Rev. John L. Nevius, D.D., of Chefoo, and Rev. David Hill, of Wuchang, were by ballot chosen Chairmen, and the choice was made unanimous.

The Committee of Arrangements recommended that three Secretaries be chosen without reference to nationality, but after some discussion this number was enlarged to six. The following were chosen secretaries: Rev. W. J. Lewis, of the China Inland Mission, Editor of the *Messenger*; Rev. B. C. Henry, D.D., Am. Pres. Mis., Canton; Rev. W. T. A. Barber, Eng. Wes. Mis., Wuchang; Rev. John R. Hykes, Am. Meth. Mis., Kiukiang; Rev. H. W. Hunt, China Inland Mission; Rev. Arthur H. Smith, Am. Board, Shantung.

Rev. J. Hudson Taylor was appointed by the Chairman, in accordance with a vote to that effect, to send a telegram from the Conference to the meeting now being held in Exeter Hall, in the interest of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

An address of welcome was delivered by the Chairman of the local Committee of Arrangements, Rev. G. F. Fitch, to which an appropriate response was made by Dr.

Nevius. Well-deserved praise was bestowed upon the indefatigable industry of this Committee, ably backed by a most efficient committee of ladies, and by the residents of Shanghai generally; to whom the warmest thanks of the Conference are due.

The Business Committee reported a series of resolutions on procedure, which were adopted by the Conference and which will be found in another column.

After the adoption of these resolutions, the first paper was read to the Conference, by Rev. Young J. Allen, D.D., of Shanghai, on "The changed aspect of China." This paper treated the nature of the changes, under the head of compulsory changes, semi-compulsory changes, spontaneous changes, and imperial changes. This part of the paper consisted of a comprehensive summary of the external facts in the relations of China to foreign nations, since the year 1860, with a discussion of the meaning of those facts. Special prominence was given to the wide scope and great value of the clauses in the treaties regarding extraterritoriality, which was treated as the lever by which China is yet to be brought into the comity of Christian nations. The duties entailed upon the missionary body by the changes in China were shown to be unity, in a wide and effective way; an organ for the native Church; a uniform series of school and text books; a national Christian university; and a wise division of labour. This exceedingly able paper was listened to with the closest attention, but the lateness of the hour prevented any discussion.

Wednesday Evening.

The meeting on Wednesday evening was held in the Union Church, and was called to order at a few minutes past 8 o'clock by Rev. Dr. Happer of Canton. After singing and prayer, Dr. Happer introduced the subject of the evening, which was the relation of Christian Missions to the foreign residents. Dr. Happer spoke of the cordial relations which have always subsisted between the merchants and the missionaries in Canton, where the first medical missionary society in the world was founded.

The paper of the evening by the Ven. Archdeacon Moule, was read with admirable clearness of enunciation by Rev. Mr. Hodges. This paper has already been published. It is a brief but compendious statement of the subject in all its aspects. At the close of the reading of the paper, Rev. Professor E. P. Thwing, M.D., of Brooklyn, N.Y. was introduced. He has just returned from a visit to India, and has spent some time at Canton, cooperating with Dr. Kerr in the establishment of an asylum for the insane of China; Professor Thwing has been a wide traveller, having made eight foreign tours, this last involving about a year's absence and 30,000 miles of travel. Dr. Thwing spoke of the mighty momentum of truth in the world, and of the acceleration of God's movements in modern history. Dr. Edward Beecher was wont to say that an idea is mightier than a million men. It is a great thing to have an idea; a still grander thing when the idea has us, but the ideas must embody truth, essential and absolute. Ideas are greater than men, because immaterial, abiding, ubiquitous and eternal; institutions are but the lengthened shadows of men. Luther gave the world Lutheranism, Calvin—Calvinism. To try to arrest an idea is to commit the folly of trying to stop cannon balls; it is a perilous thing to antagonise ideas that have within them essential truth. Thomas Arnold said that nothing is so futile as to try to keep things fixed, it is a deadly error not to improve. Into that error Confucius fell. He said that the duty of China was to conserve, not to create. China has been aptly compared to Lot's wife, her face ever turned in stony gaze to the dead past. There are two forces, inertia and momentum. An evangelist at one of Moody's

meetings said; "The Lord himself cannot switch a motionless engine." Stationary objects cannot be directed.

The mission of ideas is not transient. Their voice cannot be silenced. When we are convinced of a truth, we are not to hesitate, as the proposer of a new law in England used to stand in the market place with a rope about his neck to be hanged with it if his measure was not adopted. Nothing in the world is so intolerant as truth. What is truth? Simply the reality of things, and therefore it is unchangeable. It is a great comfort to a missionary when he rests upon this pivotal centre, upon ideas that embody eternal truth. It was a saying of Father Taylor, that God's chronometer never loses time. God's movements seem slow, sixty generations have passed before the mighty Gibraltar of heathenism. The rock has been smitten again and again, but there it stands still though fragments fall. Meantime scoffers laugh, but results cannot be measured by us. Truth will wing its way, and do its work. Labour seems lost, but some day the long-lost inscriptions on the human soul, like the ancient palimpsest will burst forth in clearness. Pessimists may doubt. Macaulay said that in his day he had seen nothing but progress, but had heard of nothing but decay. I once saw a Russian Cathedral which cost ten or fifteen millions, on which years were spent in cutting down a whole Russian forest to make into piles for the Cathedral to stand upon; then the marble, malachite and jasper pillars and dome were lifted in beauty and order. So years were spent, and millions of money in excavations at Hell-gate in Long Island Sound, but the whole great reef was in an instant blown to atoms by the baby finger of Mary Newton pressing on the electric knob. When our work is done, a nation may be born in a day.

At the conclusion of Professor Thwing's address, which was frequently interrupted by applause, Dr. Wm. Ashmore of Swatow spoke on the subject of the paper, with great force, and with the weight of forty years of missionary experience behind him. Dr. Ashmore dwelt upon certain *Western forces at work in China* and their general relationship to the missionary body. The forces mentioned were:—

- 1.—The Foreign Communities.
- 2.—The Diplomatic Body.
- 3.—The Maritime Customs.
- 4.—The Secular Press.
- 5.—The Travelled Chinaman.

The travelled Chinaman was included because he represented a native importation of foreign force in his own person.

After this the speaker mentioned still another foreign force which was at work on China, Christian missions.

And then he concluded with the great encouragement to vigorous and rapid evangelisation found in the words of the Saviour "This gospel of the kingdom must first be preached in all the world for a witness, and then shall the end come." Among the things included in this consummation of the great work of all the ages called "the end" were:—

- 1.—The building again of the fallen Tabernacle of David.
- 2.—The unconditional outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh.
- 3.—Trooping in of the nations in submission to Christianity.

In a few words after the meeting was dismissed, Mr. Muirhead called attention to the gift at various times by the foreign residents of Shanghai, of five hundred thousand taels, for missionary and benevolent purposes.

The question of what should be done by them in aid of education is a pressing one, and will be discussed at a future evening meeting.

All speakers are received and dismissed as well as frequently interrupted with applause.

Second Day, Thursday, 8th May.

The morning prayer-meeting was led by Rev. W. Wright, D.D., of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

At 10 a.m. the Conference was called to order by Dr. Nevius.

After some discussion the programme drawn up by the Committee was formally adopted. The Chairman made a statement as to the nature of the rules under which business was to be conducted, with special reference to economy of time. It was announced that except by special permission of the Conference no one was to speak more than once to the same question.

As it is understood that the ladies do not desire to occupy ten minutes in closing the discussion, they are to be allowed twenty minutes at the beginning. Members of the Conference are requested to present all motions in writing.

Attention was called to the fact that in the printed rules, the XII was omitted, authorising ladies to vote on all subjects brought before the Conference.

Mr. MUIRHEAD then presented a *résumé* of his paper on a historical summary of the different versions. Mr. Muirhead's paper is already in print, and in the hands of the Conference.

Rev. G. L. Mason, of the American Bap. Missionary Union, Huchow, read the paper of Bishop Schereschewsky upon the same topic. This paper, like the preceding, advocated a new version of the Scriptures, but laid especial stress upon the need of a new version in the mandarin dialect, and the easy *wên li* or literary dialect, while the paper of Mr. Muirhead emphasised the necessity of a new version in the higher literary dialect of China.

At the close of Bp. Schereschewsky's paper Rev. J. Wherry of Peking, read a third essay upon the same topic, giving an estimate of the value of each of the existing versions pointing to the need of a single version in the easy literary dialect for all China.

After the reading of these papers, it was voted to proceed to the discussion of them, before proceeding to the remaining topics of the morning.

Mr. Archibald of the Scotch National Bible Society, Hankow, spoke on the feasibility of a union version of the Scriptures; and the desirability of such a version is universally admitted, but unless the three great Bible Societies should unite upon such a version, it must fail. Unless very cogent reasons are brought to bear upon these societies, the union version cannot become a fact. The report of Mr. Sloan, Secretary of the Scotch National Bible Society, who travelled from Canton to Peking, to his Society was that the versions are not satisfactory, and that a new one is needed. All present versions are valuable, but preliminary. The multiplicity of versions is not of necessity a disadvantage. There can be no union version without a common term. Other divergencies besides that of terms must arise. The ultimate version must be made by natives themselves. The best version should be chosen as a basis. The time has not come for a union version, which is a mere will o' the wisp, retreating the more the longer it is pursued. Dr. Wright of the British and Foreign Bible Society, said that he was here to get information. He reported that his society had made a careful arrangement for a union version with the Scotch Bible Society, that elaborate rules had been made, and word was sent to the missionaries in China to secure a union version, but the latter had reported that this was impossible. Dr. Wright does not believe that it is impossible. No side issue at home should turn us away from the main end.

On motion this whole subject was referred to a committee of twenty-five persons as follows; Rev. Wm. Muirhead, London Mission, Shanghai; Rev. C. W. Mateer D.D., Am. Pres., T'ungchow Fu; Rev. J. C. Gibson, Eng. Pres., Swatow; Rev. Jos.

Edkins, D.D., Shanghai; Mr. Jno. Archibald, Scotch Bib. Soc., Hankow; Rev. J. Wherry, D.D., Am. Pres., Peking; Rev. Henry Blodget D.D., Am. Board, Peking; Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, Am. Board, T'ungchow Fu; Rev. Chas. Hartwell, Am. Board, Foochow; Rev. H. H. Lowry, Am. Meth., Peking; Dr. W. Wright, London; Rev. Ernst Faber, D.D., Shanghai; Rev. Jno. W. Davis, D.D., Am. So. Pres., Soochow; Rev. R. H. Graves, D.D., So. Bap., Canton; Rev. Nathan Sites, D.D. Am. Meth. Foochow; Rev. A. P. Happer, D.D., Am. Pres., Canton; Rev. E. T. Williams, Nanking; Rev. E. S. Little, Am. Meth., Kiukiang; Rev. Timothy Richard, Eng. Bap., Tientsin; Rev. T. Barclay, Eng. Pres., Taiwan Fu, Rev. Alex. Williamson, LL.D., Shanghai; Rev. David Hill, Wesleyan, Hankow; Bishop Burdon, Hongkong; Rev. A. Elwin, Church Mission, Hangchow; Rev. F. Hartmann, Hongkong.

Of this Committee, Mr. Muirhead is convener. The Committee of arrangements has designated a sub-committee consisting of Dr. Williamson, Rev. G. F. Fitch, and Rev. J. W. Stevenson.

The Committee on resolutions and business consists of Rev. J. W. Stevenson; Rev. L. W. Pilcher, D.D., Am. Meth., Peking; Rev. A. Elwin, Hangchow; Rev. T. Bryson, London Mission, Tientsin, and Rev. C. F. Reid, Shanghai.

Rev. J. C. Gibson of Swatow read a paper on the advantages of colloquial versions, and the comparative merits of roman letters and Chinese characters. This paper had unfortunately not been printed in time to be in the hands of the Conference. It was an able and exhaustive presentation of the necessity of simpler methods for uneducated Chinese, than can be had by the written character of China. A paper on the same topic by Rev. S. F. Woodin of Foochow, was read by Rev. G. H. Hubbard of Foochow.

Another paper on this theme by Rev. Bishop Burdon of Hongkong, was read by Rev. J. B. Ost of Hongkong. On motion these papers were referred to a committee composed of five English, five Americans, and two Germans, as follows: Rev. J. C. Gibson, Swatow; Rev. Wm. Cooper, C.I.M., Nanking; Rev. W. D. Rudland, C.I.M., Taichow; Rev. W. E. Southill, United Meth., Wenchow; Rev. W. Wright, London; Rev. G. H. Hubbard, Am. Board, Foochow; Rev. C. W. Mateer, D.D., Presbyterian, T'ungchow Fu; Rev. B. C. Henry, D.D., Am. Presbyterian, Canton; Rev. J. R. Goddard, So. Bap., Ningpo; Miss L. A. Haygood, So. Meth., Shanghai; Rev. F. Hartmann, Hongkong; Rev. Martin Schaub, Li-long, Basel Mission.

Thursday Afternoon.

The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by Dr. Nevius.

It was voted to amend the fifth rule adopted yesterday, by providing for a nominating committee of twelve persons, representing all parts of the empire. The following persons were chosen as this committee.

Rev. J. C. Gibson, Swatow; Rev. C. W. Mateer, Tungchow Fu; Rev. J. Lees, Tientsin; Rev. T. Richard, Tientsin; Rev. E. Faber, D. D. Shanghai; Rev. A. W. Douthwaite, M.D., C. I. M., Chefoo; Rev. W. Bridie, Wesleyan, Fatsan; Rev. Y. J. Allen, Shanghai; Rev. D. Z. Sheffield, Am. Board, T'ungchow; Rev. L. W. Pilcher, D.D., Peking; Rev. J. R. Hykes, Am. Meth., Kiukiang; Rev. Mr. Eldon.

Dr. Mateer resigned from the committee on colloquial versions chosen in the forenoon, and Rev. L. W. Kip, D.D., Am. Ref., Amoy, was appointed in his place. It was voted to refer the question of a new version of the mandarin colloquial to a committee of twelve chosen from the mandarin speaking districts, this committee to report to the Conference.

Dr. Williamson summarised his paper on the need of notes and headings for the Chinese Scriptures, after which Mr. S. Dyer gave a synopsis of his paper on bible distribution in China.

The ensuing discussion was exceedingly animated, and evidently stirred the deepest interest on the part of all present. Mr. Archibald admitted the need of such notes as Dr. Williamson advocates, but showed the great difficulties in procuring them. The existing societies are hampered by definite regulations. But to show that these societies are ready to meet the wishes of the missionaries, extracts were read from the report of the Sec. of the Scotch Bible Society, Mr. Sloan, who reported to his society the general desire for such notes. There are grave constitutional difficulties in the societies, which cannot be ignored. Then there is the difficulty of knowing exactly what is wanted. There is danger of getting too much, not a note, but a commentary; translations of handbooks are not wanted. Four years ago the Scotch Bible Society asked for samples of this work, and with all urging, it took four years to get them done. An able review of the first instalment recently appeared in the *North China Herald*. Then the making of notes once begun, no one can tell where it will stop. Other countries may want the same, and an explosion may follow. On the other hand some notes are needed. No book is translated until the reader knows what is in it.

The Bible Societies are far too strict in their interpretation of their rules. Colporteurs give verbal 'notes,' why not allow able men to do the same in printed characters? King James' version is a precedent for matter that is not a part of the Bible, introduction, and comment in the shape of headings. After these things the Bible Societies have not a logical leg to stand on, in refusing notes that are needed. Again there is danger of heretical teaching. This is what is feared at home. The indispensable notes will be neither many nor long, the question of a new version is more of annotation than of translation.

Dr. Nevius thought this subject should be presented to the Bible Societies in a strong light. With this view he had prepared a paper, which he would not read, but expressed himself as strongly in sympathy with the demand for notes and explanations. At the request of the conference, Dr. Nevius read his paper, which excited warm approval, and equally warm dissent. The points in it of special interest were the claim that the Bible is of necessity more or less unintelligible without some accompanying explanations. The Bible is not the book to begin work with in China, but should be preceded by Evangelists. Rev. H. C. Dubose, So. Pres., Soochow, strongly dissented from this view, and showed that the Bible alone is often quite sufficient without notes of any sort, which may even detract from the value. The difficulty can be met by using tracts, keeping the Bible free from interpolations. Mr. Leaman, Am. Pres., Nankin, took the same view. Rev. R. H. Graves, D.D., Canton, thought the Bible was often sufficient with no explanations, good as these might be. Mr. Stevenson, of the Union Church, thought that the demand for notes and explanations quite consistent with the highest reverence for the Bible. Rev. C. G. Sparham, L. Mission, Hankow, advocated words of explanation. Dr. Mateer of Tungchow Fu thought it important not to convey the impression that we are opposed to the circulation of the Bible. We must educate the sentiment of our home lands. The bible societies are greatly ahead of the public. He wished a vote of all who had been twenty years in China, as to the need of notes of explanation. A Chinaman will not read far in a book the first few sentences of which do not impress him favourably. Dr.

Wright of London thought that if the views advocated by Dr. Nevius' paper should prevail, the British and Foreign Bible Society would greatly contract its work in China. He regretted the paper in its present form, and deprecated its publication. He gave illustrations of difficulties in translating into Arabic, similar to those mentioned in the Chinese. The discussion was continued by Rev. J. B. N. Smith of Shanghai, and Rev. Evan Bryant of Tientsin, agent of the British and For. Bible Soc. who strongly deprecated theological notes in Bibles, and gave cases showing the value of his colporteurs, and instances of churches formed from the results of their labours. Dr. Williamson and Mr. Dyer then replied briefly to the arguments advanced. It was voted to close the sessions at noon, and at five p.m.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CONFERENCE.

- 1.—That the Chairman observe in the conduct of business the ordinary and generally accepted rules for deliberative bodies.
- 2.—That the Committee on Arrangements and Entertainment be continued.
- 3.—That a Committee consisting of Rev. Chauncy Goodrich, Rev. D. Hill and Rev. J. L. Gibson be appointed on devotional services.
- 4.—That a Committee of five be appointed by the Chairman to receive and introduce to the Conference any resolutions on matters of business not included in our printed programme, this committee to be called the Committee on Business and Resolutions.
- 5.—That when thought desirable by the Conference, committees be appointed composed of not less than twelve persons to report to the Conference what action, if any, is desirable, on the subject or subjects of the day; that these Committees be nominated *virâ voce* and approved by the Conference and that two-thirds of the whole number constitute a quorum of the Committee for the transaction of business. The reports of these Committees shall be read before the Conference if practicable one day before the time appointed for considering and acting on them. If the members of a Committee be found to be divided in opinion they may, if they see fit, present both a majority and a minority report, and 5 minutes may be given for stating the reasons for each report, the reasons for the majority report being heard first.
- 6.—Authors shall be restricted to ten minutes in presenting a *résumé* of their essays.
- 7.—The discussion of the subjects introduced by the essays each forenoon and afternoon of the Conference shall be opened by two persons specially proposed for doing so, who shall be selected by the Committee on Business and Resolutions. Members of the Conference thus proposed are requested to hand their names to that Committee.
- 8.—Persons opening the debates shall be restricted to 10 minutes unless extension of time is voted by the Conference.
- 9.—Others following in the discussion shall be restricted to 5 minutes.
- 10.—Authors shall have 10 minutes to close the discussion on their essays if they wish.
- 11.—In all discussions which may arise in the Conference, whether on resolutions, substitutes or amendments, speakers shall be restricted to 3 minutes.

Amusements.

SHANGHAI SPRING RACES.

OFF-DAY.

Saturday, 3rd May.

The usual off-day in connection with the spring race meeting took place on Saturday, but can hardly be characterised as successful. There was a fairly large attendance,

but the weather was dull and rainy, the course was very soft and heavy, owing to recent rain, and slow times and small fields were the rule. One of the best races of the day was the V Cup, in which *Spider* came within two lengths of *Autocrat*; and the Beef Stakes, which resolved itself into a match between *Sahara* and *Fun*, provided a finish almost as close, and was an instance of the powers of the China pony. Half a mile of soft going at racing pace, with a weight of 200 lb. on his back, would be enough to test the powers of any animal of the equine kind. One of the most popular victories of the day was that of *Dunkeld*, who seemed suited by the soft ground. At the end of the regular programme there was the usual race for sailors mounted on griffins in various stages of playfulness; and it was productive of the usual amusement and original horsemanship. The Town Band, under the acting band master, Mr. C. de Castro, attended during the afternoon and played the following selections:—

- 1.—March—Pracer Jubilee.....Komsak.
- 2.—Gavotte—The first kiss.....Schubert.
- 3.—Fantasia—Maritana (No. 2).....Wallace.
- 4.—Polka—Les Folies.....Waldteufel.
- 5.—Fantasia—A Burlesque.....Kappey.
- 6.—Entr'acte—La Colombe.....Gounod.
- 7.—Waltz—Laura.....Müllöcker.
- 8.—March—Outpost.....Scheurt.

The following are the details of the racing:—

- 1.—THE "HERO" CUP—Value, Tls. 100—Presented—For all Griffins that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race—Weight for inches as per scale—Entrance, \$5, to go to the second Pony—Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Buxey's grey *Ency* (Mr. Read) 10 9...1
 „ Constable's grey *Mercur* (Mr. Lehmann).....11 10...2
 „ Umber's chestnut *Fresh Deal* (Mr. Crawford).....10 12...3
 „ Ring's grey *Orlof* (Mr. Meyerink) 11 1...0
Mercur jumped off with the lead, a neck in front of *Fresh Deal*, but *Ency* soon took up the running and led by a couple of lengths at the bend, *Orlof* last. At the Monument all four were close together, but *Ency* soon drew ahead again, had four lengths lead into the straight, and won by seven or eight lengths; bad third.—Time, 1m. 38½sec.

Pari Mutuel:—*Orlof* 21, *Ency* 19, *Fresh Deal* 6, *Mercur* 5.—Total 51=\$255.

- 2.—THE BIG TEST SWEEP—Value, Tls. 100—Presented—For all Ponies that have run at this Meeting and not been placed—Winners on the fourth day excluded—Weight for inches as per scale—Entrance, \$5, to go to the second Pony—One mile and a half.

Mr. McCullagh's chestnut *Precursor* (Mr. Coutts).....11 1...1
 „ Min's bay *Reaper* (Mr. Baker).....11 7...2
 „ Henry's grey *Feiho* (Mr. Read).....10 12...3
Precursor came past the stand with a lead of six lengths from *Reaper* and *Feiho*, and maintained it to the end, *Reaper*, who made a good attempt to come up at the Monument, never getting near enough to be dangerous.—Time, 3m. 34sec.

Pari Mutuel:—*Precursor* 61, *Feiho* 24, *Reaper* 20.—Total 105=\$325.

- 3.—THE MAFOOS' RACE—For Ponies that have run at this Meeting—Winners at this Meeting excluded—Weight, 9st. 7lbs.—Entrance, \$5—Once Round—Native Riders in Racing Colours—The stakes to be handed to the riders as follows:—The Winner, 5/8ths; second rider, 2/8ths; third, 1/8th.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys' grey *Visitant* (Chun-sun).....9 7...1
 „ Sassoon's grey *Satyr* (Ting-urh) 9 9...2
 „ Do. roan *Unicorn* (A-too).....9 7...3
 „ Chouffeur's grey *Precious* (Monkey).....9 7...0
 „ Sassoon's grey *Eiffel* (Punch).....9 9...0
 „ Do. grey *Forester* (Koh-yung).....9 8...0

Mr. Godolphin's white *Arrow* (Fei-shua).....9 9...0
 „ Shediak's grey *Muguasha* (A-ling).....9 11...0
 „ J. D. Humphreys' grey *Veneration* (Jim).....9 7...0
 „ Ring's grey *Padisha* (Ting-hai) 9 7...0
Arrow and *Forester* made the running; but half way along the back straight *Eiffel* came to the front, *Arrow* second and *Forester* third. So they ran to near the Monument, where *Visitant*, coming up with a rush on the outside, took the lead and won easily by a dozen lengths; bad third; *Forester* was fourth, and *Precious* last.—Time, 2m. 45½sec.

Pari Mutuel:—*Forester* 84, *Visitant* 31, *Eiffel* 21, *Unicorn* 10, *Veneration* 6, *Arrow* 3, *Muguasha* 3, *Satyr* 2, *Padisha* 2, *Precious* 1.—Total 163=\$815.

- 4.—THE "V" CUP—Value, Tls. 100—Second Pony Tls. 50—Presented—For all Griffins that have run at this Meeting and not won a Race—Weight for inches as per scale—Winners on the fourth day excluded—Entrance, \$5, to go to the third Pony—One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Chantrey's white *Autocrat* (Mr. Baker).....11 4...1
 „ Carr's grey *Spider* (Mr. Read).....11 4...2
 „ Tytherleigh's chestnut *Skylark* (Mr. Easton).....11 1...3
 „ Ring's chestnut *St. Mark* (Mr. Lehmann).....11 10...0

Skylark made the running, but near the Loong-fei gate shied and lost about a dozen lengths. He soon took the lead again, and at the Monument *Autocrat*, *Skylark*, and *Spider* were close together, *St. Mark* three lengths in the rear. Rounding the bend *Autocrat* drew away and though closely pressed by *Spider* won by two lengths and a half; bad third; *St. Mark* was last throughout. Time, 3min. 3sec.

Pari Mutuel:—*Autocrat* 102, *St. Mark* 23, *Spider* 22, *Skylark* 7.—Total 154=\$770.

- 5.—THE "BLACK LEAF" CUP—Value, Tls. 100—Presented—For all Ponies that have run at this Meeting and not won a race—Weight for inches as per scale—Ponies placed in any race 3lbs. extra; Griffins at this Meeting allowed 7lbs.—Winners on the fourth day excluded—Entrance, \$5, to go to the second Pony—One mile and a half.

Mr. McCullagh's grey *Millionaire* (Mr. Coutts).....11 4...1
 „ Inch's grey *Earlstoun* (Mr. Meyerink).....11 1...2
 „ Major's grey *Obstructionist* (Mr. Maclean).....10 11...3
 „ Buxey's cream *Monte Christo* (Mr. Maclean).....10 11...0

Monte Christo and *Millionaire* made the running past the stand, but the former soon fell back and *Millionaire* went along the back straight with a lead of four lengths, *Earlstoun* coming up into second place, *Monte Christo* third, and *Obstructionist* last. At the Monument *Monte Christo* was beaten, and *Millionaire*, maintaining his advantage, won by two lengths; bad third.—Time, 3m. 38sec.

Pari Mutuel:—*Earlstoun* 51, *Millionaire* 51, *Monte Christo* 49, *Obstructionist* 27.—Total 178=\$890.

- 6.—THE MAFOOS' CHAMPION RACE—For China Ponies, the property of Members of the Shanghai Race Club—Weight, 9st. 7lbs.—Entrance, \$5—Once Round—Native Riders in Racing Colours—The stakes to be handed to the riders as follows:—The Winner, 5/8ths; second rider, 2/8ths; third rider, 1/8th.

Mr. Molloy's dun *Dunkeld* (Horse).....9 7...1
 „ Chouffeur's grey *Elegant* (Monkey).....9 7...2
 „ McCullagh's chestnut *Precursor* (Kai-foo).....9 7...3
 „ J. D. Humphreys' grey *Vagrant* (Ah-mow).....9 7...0

Mr. J. D. Humphreys' chestnut Venture (Chun-sung)	9 7...0
„ Constable's grey Markgraf (Ho sun)	9 7...0
„ Sassoon's brown Hollyhock (Koh- yuen)	9 8...0
„ Sassoon's grey Janus (Schu- mann)	9 7...0

Markgraf and Hollyhock made the running, but on rounding the bend for the back straight Precursor came up rapidly and went on half a length in front of Hollyhock, Dunkeld lying third, and Markgraf having dropped back to the others, three lengths behind. Nearing the Monument Dunkeld came to the front and established a good lead which he maintained to the end. Elegant came up well near the bend but could not overtake the leader, who won by four lengths; bad third; Janus was fourth, Markgraf was fifth, and Venture last—Time, 2m. 44½s.

Pari Mutuel:—Vagrant 67, Venture 65, Hollyhock 60, Elegant 26, Dunkeld 24, Precursor 21, Markgraf 3, Janus 2.—Total 268=\$1,340.

7.—THE CELESTIAL STEEPLECHASE.—For all China Ponies, without regard to Ownership—Winners of a Steeplechase or Paper Hunt excluded—Native Riders in Racing Colours—Catch weights—Entrance, \$5—First rider, 5/8ths; second, 2/8ths; third, 1/8th—Once Round.

Lump (Koh-sang)	1
Maz (Baby)	2
Lushan (Ah-tso)	3
Tiger (Watermann)	0
Plunger (Punch)	0
Derring Do (Kai-too)	0
Monte Christo (E-kwai)	0

Monte Christo refused at the first water jump and threw his rider, and Tiger subsequently fell. Lump took the lead in the back straight, and, without being overtaken won easily by twenty lengths; about ten lengths between second and third; Plunger was fourth and Derring Do, a long way behind, last.

Pari Mutuel:—Lump 26, Derring Do 25, Maz 18, Plunger 16, Monte Christo 8, Tiger 4, Lushan 4.—Total 101=\$505.

8.—THE BEEF STAKES—Sweepstakes of \$5 each. For all Ponies, property of members of the Club—Catch weights over 200lbs.—Half a mile.

Mr. Sassoon's brown Sahara (Mr. Cameron)	204 ...1
„ Buxey's bay Fun (Mr. Sullivan). ..	200 ...2

Fun made the running, but Sahara soon drew up, and, coming ahead soon after passing the Monument, won by two lengths and a half.

Pari Mutuel:—Sahara 57, Fun 14.—Total 71=\$355.

S. V. C.

INTER-COMPANY CHALLENGE CUP.

The fifth competition for this valuable trophy took place yesterday morning, between A Company and the Artillery, the former being the challengers. The teams were twelve a side, the maximum number allowed by the rules, and the ranges were 500 and 600 yards—usual conditions. The match came off under fairly favourable conditions: the weather was clear, not too bright, and there was very little wind; but the atmospheric conditions were peculiar and seemed to puzzle several of the veterans. A good deal of rather wild shooting resulted and one seasoned competitor with as much candour as wit went so far as to declare that nowadays teams were “all tail” and the result depended not so much on good as upon bad scores.

At the conclusion of the firing at 500 yards A Company were 26 points to the bad. They fell back 23 points further at 600 yards so that the Artillery won on the grand total by 49 points or an average of over 4 points per man, and therefore retain possession of the cup. Man for man the

scores of the winning team are better all through than those of their opponents, the highest being that of Corporal Bullock who made 55.

The Artillery win the cup for the third time in succession, and the next right to challenge the holders lies with C Company. Captain Lanning attended to act as umpire but happily his office was purely nominal.

Appended are the scores:—

ARTILLERY.		500 yds.	600 yds.	Tl.
Corp. Bullock	2544433-27	5544235-28	55	
Gun. Murphy	3534555-30	5323443-24	54	
Driv. Clarke	3255445-28	3552532-25	53	
Gun. Smyth	3245544-27	4024444-22	49	
Lieut. Rex	3354255-22	3523544-26	48	
Gun. Crank	4544423-23	3423255-24	47	
Driv. Allan	2554544-29	2524005-18	47	
B. S. M. Cameron	2245324-22	4232452-22	44	
Gun. Watts	0224554-22	3332352-21	43	
„ Charters	3445452-27	422355-16	43	
„ Cameron	5533333-25	0220423-13	38	
Driv. Bourke	2230442-17	3025532-20	37	
Total	299	259	558	

“A” COMPANY.		500 yds.	600 yds.	Tl.
C. S. Glass	5444533-28	2344323-21	49	
Priv. Buchanan	5444423-25	2225444-23	48	
„ Allen	5444254-29	2023054-16	45	
„ Valentine	555325-25	3243350-20	45	
„ Gibson	3542453-26	3225402-18	44	
„ Bois	5323543-25	2202354-18	43	
„ Jensen	0235235-20	4540432-22	42	
„ Scott	335352-21	0422553-21	42	
Lieut. Dowdall	4242234-21	3443222-20	41	
Corp. Reeks	4020254-17	4344242-23	40	
Priv. Woodward	024432-15	4343033-20	35	
Lieut. Wingrove	3422235-21	2022242-14	35	
Total	273	236	509	

Correspondence.

THE IRISH PEASANTRY.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—You reproduced some short time since a paragraph which went the round of the papers, of the English-speaking world at least, and which originated, as I best recollect, in the *St. James's Gazette*, introducing us to two small children engaged in some of the Irish enquiries as to distress, to represent on demand, from time to time, as required for purposes of deception, human beings stricken with famine. The late General Gordon, who visited some of the distressed districts in 1880, wrote a letter to *The Times*, as to Irish crime and destitution, in which he says:—“Our comic prints do an infinity of harm by their caricatures; firstly, the caricatures are not true, for crime in Ireland is not greater than that in England; and, secondly, they exasperate the people on both sides of the Channel; and they do no good. It is ill to laugh and scoff at a question which affects our existence. I must say, from all accounts, and my own observation, that the state of our fellow-countrymen in the parts I have named is worse than that of any people in the world, let alone Europe. I believe that these people are made as we are, that they are patient beyond belief, loyal”—so said my letter in reference to American-Irish—“but at the same time broken-spirited and desperate, living on the verge of starvation in places in which we would not keep our cattle. . . I am not well off,” (he says), “but I would offer” (he, or the Editor of *The Times* leaves a blank, for the name of the landlord, as I presume), “or his agent one thousand pounds if either of them would live one week in one of these poor devils' places and feed as these people do.”

Who but Shakespeare could have written the following lines:—

“Famine is in thy cheeks,
Need and oppression starveth in thine eyes,
Upon thy back hangs ragged misery;
The world is not thy friend nor the world's law.”

He was a Celt, but the Saxon can understand him.

I trust that papers which have contributed to the circulation of the disgraceful paragraph from the *St. James's* will be willing, on seeing this characteristic expression of “Chinese Gordon's” views, to give it a like publicity.

I am, etc.,

P. D.

3rd May.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Permit me to make a few remarks upon the letter of “P. D.” which appeared in your issue of the 6th inst. Without noticing the political feeling which, undesignedly perhaps, finds its way into his letter, I would say he somewhat unjustly blames the *St. James's Gazette* (and you, Mr. Editor, for he who bears the slander shares the crime) for publishing the story of the two children employed at an eviction scene in the “bogus poverty deception trick.” Putting aside the daily occurrence of such deception in England (so that the story is nothing new)—does “P. D.” really imagine that any paper would publish this particular instance, simply to excite amusement at the expense of the poor deluded poverty-stricken peasants? The author of the story is, I believe, Mr. G. R. Sims—a man whose sympathy and untiring energy on behalf of the poor cannot be disputed and whose “How the poor live” would amply suffice to confirm my statement. No, sir! this story was published purely and simply to show up the political expedients of the “criminal conspiracy” party and their unscrupulous agents. No one denies the poverty and want of many of the rural districts in Ireland, but the manufacturing of sensational dramas—appropriately placed and duly rehearsed for the occasion, only tends to make the public callous, indifferent, and in time sceptical, to the urgencies of that need. The comic papers following the more serious ones rightly depict these political resorts as ludicrous and unworthy of any great party. I must be allowed to differ from General Gordon as to the effects of comic papers, and would like to ask if humour is not generally excited at things which affect our existence. Thackeray (*Wit and Humour*, p. 15) says “Humour is as it were the growth of nature and accident . . . is an imitation of the natural or acquired absurdities of mankind or of the ludicrous in accident, situation and character.” A serious accident, under certain circumstances may excite our humour and sympathy combined—these qualities often go hand in hand, as it were—the one by no means debars nor denies the existence of the other.

As to the remark that “the state of the population in some parts of Ireland is worse than in any other part of the world,” I will simply say that General Gordon could never have visited the back slums of Westminster. Their “loyalty” would be undoubted and unimpeachable were it not for the deliberate and the iterated avowals of their representatives to “sever the last link that bound them to England.” Happily perhaps political rancour does not enter into public discussion in Shanghai, but I would observe that a casual perusal of the parliamentary debates at home would not be unprofitable and would perhaps convince an unbiased reader of the justice of Mr. Gladstone's words, that the Irish landlords as a body were “just and reasonable” to their tenants; and again, that the only difference he (Mr. Gladstone) could see between an English and an Irish tenant was, that the latter was accorded more liberties and privileges than the former.

With apologies for occupying so much of your valuable space,

I am, etc.,

JUSTICE TO IRELAND.

May 6th.

CHUNGKING AND CHINA'S
NEW PROPOSAL.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR.—Kindly allow me space for a brief word on the above subject. It is to be hoped that Her British Majesty's Government is labouring under no delusion as to the real meaning of this proposal. It is nothing less than a mischievous attempt to obstruct the legitimate efforts of British merchants to trade directly on favourable conditions in Western China. Possibly there are those who from an exuberance of kindly feeling will describe the proposal otherwise, but those who know the Chinese best will call it a piece of sharp practice which richly deserves to be foiled. For what does this proposal mean? It means an indefinite postponement of steam navigation to Chungking; it means the conservation of all existing risks on goods shipped in circumstances where safe insurance is impossible, and it further means a general increase of irritating squabbles and delays. In a single word the proposal to open Chungking without the aid of steamers is an astute diplomatic trick which has for its object the crippling of British enterprise in the West. Great Britain is coolly asked to surrender a just claim in return for which China will generously allow her certain privileges (?), the value of which is nil. Lord Salisbury is supposed to have some regard for British prestige. Will he see through this latest Chinese plot, and treat it as it deserves? And one would like to know the views of our silent Minister on the matter. Is it not true that this proposal is the result of his indecision? If so, Englishmen generally have small reason to be grateful to him.

Yours, etc.,
OBSERVER.

Chungking, 22nd April.

Miscellaneous.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF
THE CHINESE BOY.

III.

It is no exaggeration to say that there is nothing really intellectual in any part of the early schooling of an ordinary Chinese boy. As a rule the teacher does not concern himself with his pupils, further than to drag them over a specified course, or at least to attempt to do so. The parents of the lad are equally indifferent, or even more so. If the father can himself read, he remembers that he learned to do so by a long and thorny road, and he thinks it natural that his son should traverse it likewise. If he cannot read, he recognises the fact that he knows nothing at all about the matter, and that it is not his business to interfere. The teacher is hired to teach—let him do it. At home the pupil has no mental stimulus of any sort, no books, magazines or papers, and if he had them, his barren studies at school would not have fitted him to comprehend such literature. The range of characters which he has learned, often very imperfectly, is totally different from those in common use, and largely of no value except as a step to the classics. If the pupil goes on, as a small proportion of them do, after having theoretically mastered the classics, to study literary composition, his tasks are far more difficult than before. Chinese composition is an exceedingly intricate study, and requires a highly developed memory, wide acquaintance with the written character, and a patience which must be almost infinite. For those who do not go so far as to learn to compose, their education may be said to be finished before it is fairly under way. When it is dead and buried, as it not improbably will be within a few years, it might appropriately have carved upon its tomb-stone, the epitaph said to have marked the resting place of a still-born infant,

'Since so quickly I am done for,
I wonder what I was begun for.'

Considering the utter juicelessness of his studies, which are not inaptly compared to 'gnawing a wooden pear,' it is by no means singular that the great majority of pupils when they leave school, cast aside all their little stock of learning, as a worn-out pair of shoes belonging to their early days, but of no subsequent value. Notwithstanding the vast number of books in the lists of Chinese literature, there are very few which are popularly available. The books to be found in an average Chinese house, albeit some of the inmates can 'read', are generally scant in number, and limited in range—perhaps the one most sure to have been read, is the historical novel called the 'Three Kingdoms.' But the style and the characters are alike far beyond the capacity of most lads who have had only five or six years of schooling. The cheap little books which are everywhere sold, are full of false characters, badly printed, and so difficult to comprehend for a boy with but a limited knowledge, that they might as well be written in Egyptian hieroglyphics. The practical result is, that the whole education of a vast number of Chinese boys has the same relation to their subsequent life, as a familiarity with the 'tones' of the Greek language, has to the business career of the man who has graduated from an English university. Ten years from Oxford, what signifies it (to any one but a professor of Greek) that "in the genitive plural of the first declension of Greek nouns, the final syllable is circumflexed, but that feminine adjectives, and participles in *os e on* are accented like the genitive masculine, but other feminine adjectives and participles are *perispomena* in the genitive plural, and that *chrestes, ophiue, etesiai, and chlounes* in the genitive plural remain paroxytones"? Happily there are other items in the liberal education of an English student, which will probably abide with him, while in the case of a vast multitude of Chinese lads, almost the whole of what they have with such incredible labour acquired, will vanish like the morning cloud and the early dew, and like the baseless fabric of a vision, leave not a wrack behind.

There is one incident in the life of the Chinese lad, which assumes in his eyes some degree of importance, to which most occidental boys are strangers. This is the ceremony of donning the cap, in other words of becoming a man and his marriage. The age at which this takes place is far from being a fixed one, but is often in the vicinity of sixteen. The customs observed doubtless vary, but in rural districts they frequently consist in nothing more exciting than the playing by a band of music in the evening before his marriage, and a visit on the part of the young man to each house in the village where he makes his prostration, much as at the New Year, and is henceforth to be considered a full-grown man, and is protected to some extent from snubs because he is 'only a child.' The more conspicuous part of the affair, however, is the wedding. This proceeding is based upon principles so radically different from those to which we are accustomed, that it is generally hard for a Westerner to become reconciled either to the Chinese theory or to the practice. To us, marriage seems suitable for persons who have attained, not merely years of puberty, but a certain maturity of development, compatible with the new relations which they now assume. We regard the man and wife as the basis and centre of a new family, and there is ancient and adequate authority for the doctrine that they should leave father and mother. In China it is altogether otherwise. The boy and girl who are married are not a new family, but the latest branch in a tall family tree, independent of which they have no corporate existence. It is by no means uncommon for boys to be married

at the age of ten, although this is regarded as a trifle premature. The physical, intellectual, or moral development of the parties concerned, has nothing whatever to do with the matter of their marriage, which is an affair controlled by wholly different considerations. Sometimes it is hastened because an old grandmother is in feeble health and insists upon seeing the main business of life done up, before she is called away. Sometimes the motive is to settle the division of a piece of property so that it shall be impossible for the elder heirs to retreat from the settlement. Quite as often, the real motive for hastening the wedding is the felt need in the boy's family of an additional servant, which need will be supplied by the introduction of a new bride. It is for this reason that so many Chinese women are older than their husbands. When they are betrothed, the bigger they are the better, because they can do all the more work. To a Chinese, there is no more sense of incongruity in marrying a little slip of a boy, simply because he is young, and perhaps not more than half the size of his bride, than there would be in playing checkers with buttons, and then crowning the first button that happened to get to the king row. What signifies whether the button is a small one or a large one since it has reached the last row, and has now a set of moves of its own, a fact which must be recognised by doubling itself. It is not otherwise with the Chinese boy. He is a double button, it is true, but he is nothing but a button still and a small one, and is but an insignificant part of a wide and complicated game. During the celebration of a Chinese wedding it does not strike the spectator that the bridegroom is the centre of interest, and the bride is so only for the time being and in consequence of the curiosity which is felt to see what sort of a bargain the family has made in getting her. The young man is ordered out of the apartment where he has been kept in ambush—according to the customs in some regions—like an ox for the sacrifice. He is to fall upon his knees at a word of command, and *k'o t'o* with intermittent sequence to a great variety of persons, until his knees are stiff and his legs lame. His eyes are fixed upon the ground, as if in deepest humility, and the most awkward Chinese youth will perform the details of this trying ordeal with a natural grace, with which the most well-bred occidental youth could scarcely hope to vie, and which he assuredly could not hope to surpass. When the complicated protracted ceremonies are all over, our young lad is, it is true, a married man, but he is not the 'head' of any family, not even of his own. He is still under the same control of his father as before, his bride is under the control of the mother-in-law, to a degree which it is difficult for us to comprehend. If the youthful husband is trying to learn to compose essays, his marriage does not at all interrupt his educational enterprise and as soon as the ceremonies are over, he goes on just as before. If he is dull, and cannot make the 'seven empty particles'—the terror of the inexpert Chinese essayist—fit into his laborious sentences to the satisfaction of his teacher, he is not unlikely to be beaten over the head for his lack of critical acumen, and can then go weeping home to have his wife stick a black gunny plaster over the area of his chastisement. We have known a Chinese boy who had the dropsy in an aggravated form but who could not be persuaded to take a single dose of medicine that was at all bitter. If he was pressed to do so by his fond mother, he either 'rowed,' or cried. If he was not allowed to eat two whole water melons at a time his tactics were the same, a domestic scene either of violent temper, or of dismal howling grief. He was merely prolonging into youth the plan universally adopted in the childhood of Chinese children. Yet this sensitive infant of seventeen, had been married for several years, and leaves a

widow to mourn the circumstance that drugs, dropsy, and watermelons, have blighted her existence.

The Chinese boy generally learns well two valuable lessons, and the thoroughness with which they are mastered does much to atone for the great defects of his training in other regards. He learns obedience and respect for authority, and he learns to be industrious. In most cases, the latter quality is the condition of his continued existence and those who refuse to submit to the inexorable law, are disposed of by that law, to the great advantage of the survivors. But of intellectual independence, he has not the faintest conception or even a capacity of comprehension. He does as others do, and neither knows nor can imagine any other way. If he is 'educated,' his mind is like a sub-soil pipe, filled with all the drainage which has ever run through the ground. A part of this drainage originally came it is true from the skies, but it has been considerably altered in its constituents since that time; and a much larger part is a wholly human secretion, painfully lacking in chemical purity. In any case this is the content of his mind, and it is all of its content. If, on the other hand, the Chinese youth is uneducated, his mind is like an open ditch, partly vacant, and partly full of whatever is flowing or blowing over the surface. He is not indeed destitute of humility, in fact, he has a most depressing amount of it. He knows that he knows nothing, that he never did, never shall, never can know anything, and also that it makes very little difference what he knows. He has a blind respect for learning, but no idea of gathering any crumbs thereof for himself. The long, broad black and hopeless shadow of Confucianism is over him. It means a high degree of intellectual cultivation for the few, who are necessarily narrow and often bigoted, and for the many it means a lifetime of intellectual stagnation. Measured by what it has totally failed to do, when it might and should have done it, we charge Confucianism with being intellectually one of the most elaborate, compendious, and far-reaching failures, which has ever wrought out its ultimate results upon this distracted earth!

MORE ABOUT TAH-MO.

On arriving in Shanghai this morning my attention was called to an article by your correspondent, "P.D." in which, after a brief reference to my recent letter from Nanking, he gives us some very interesting information respecting that ancient worthy, Tah-mo. A few days ago I obtained a copy of a native book, "The Tah-mo Kien" (達摩卷), published in the interests of the Buddhist fraternity by the aid of subscriptions from charitably disposed persons whose names are published in an appendix. The book which is probably quite modern contains much that is absurd and uninteresting, being chiefly an effort to reconcile Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. The author declares that this result will certainly follow a proper understanding of the doctrine set forth by Tah-mo. There are some statements in the book, however, which are rather remarkable as being directly opposed to the accepted teachings of the Buddhists and tending to confirm the view that Tah-mo was the Apostle Thomas. I have no copy of the work by me else I would give a few quotations, I can give only the substance of these statements as I remember them. Some of your readers may perhaps be interested in them.

This writer makes Tah-mo the twenty-eighth instead of the twentieth incarnation of Buddha. He declares that the Emperor, Wu Ti, of the Liang Dynasty, looking up one day saw a peculiar cloud floating rapidly from the west and, turning to a priest near by, asked what it was. The priest replied that it was probably a holy man from the

west. This was immediately shown to be the case, for Tah-mo alighting from his airy chariot saluted the Emperor and was asked whence he came and who he was. He replied that he came from India more than ten myriads of li to the west and having revealed his rank and character, the Emperor expressed himself delighted to make his acquaintance and this especially because Tah-mo would be able to tell him about heaven and hell. The saint appears to have been "a plain, blunt man," for without any respect for the Imperial presence he said:

"I am heaven and you are hell." The Emperor was naturally a little displeased and said:—"I have built a shrine every five li throughout the empire and every ten li a monastery and is all this merit to go for nothing that you thus consign me to hell!" He further ordered the guards to seize the offender and would have put him to death, but Tah-mo laughed at his anger, told the Emperor he was powerless to injure him, and further declared his temples worthless as a means of salvation.

Later Tah-mo met a priest diligently studying his sacred books. "What are these books?" he asked, "The Law" replied the priest, "All that's white is paper, all that's black is ink," rejoined the saint, "I see no law." He ridiculed such devotion to the study of books as utterly useless. The indignant priest cried that he had studied these books forty-nine years and that they had saved no end of people. Tah-mo laughed the more, whereupon the priest struck him in the face and knocked out two of the holy man's teeth. Tah-mo, throwing his hands back over his shoulders, vanished but summoned ten evil spirits from the "vasty deep" to take his place. The priest looking up astonished, inquired to what he was indebted for the honour of this visit. They replied that they had come to carry him off to hell. In vain did the startled man plead the forty-nine years of merit which he had laid up. He was told he had rejected the true teacher from the west. At this he became quite penitent and requested that he might be conducted once more to the presence of the injured sage. After a variety of experiences he discovered him on a distant mountain and at once pleaded for instruction in the true doctrine. It will take too much space to relate the whole conversation, but among other things he expressly condemns the Buddhist notion of attaining salvation from the endless round of birth and death by abstraction and quiet meditation, and declares that to attain such deliverance he must bathe in blood, which recalls the statement of the Scriptures:—"Without the shedding of blood there can be no remission." In this case however the priest, it is said, drew a knife and severing the arteries of his own arm was covered with his own blood. On asking further instruction in the true doctrine he is greatly commended and told that this which he seeks is "One" and no more, "without form or shape," and "the source of all things in heaven and earth." Afterwards he is commanded to preach this doctrine until it has pervaded the whole earth and is again reminded that the meditation of the recluse is without benefit. In the next chapter the priest asks how he may attain to an upright disposition and is told to seek it not outside himself, not to ascend into heaven, nor descend into the abyss, but to find it in his own heart, and is assured that this truth has power to penetrate to the sinew and bone, which recalls two other familiar passages of Scripture. There is of course much that is thoroughly Buddhist mixed up with this, but it is strange that teachings so entirely at variance with Buddhist notions should find a place in a Buddhist tract. It is possible that these are fragments of a purer teaching handed down from some ancient day and well nigh lost now amidst the rubbish by which they have been buried. Tah-mo is further re-

presented, as saying that the true "king" (經) is a "One Character King" (一字經) and that he who knows this character will be able to reconcile the three religions. Near the close of the book we are told that this character is "M'i T'o" (彌陀), but here we have two characters instead of one and as the latter part of the book differs so greatly in character from the first few chapters, it seems not improbable that this is a later interpretation given by Buddhist priests to reconcile the teaching of Tah-mo with their own. There is a return to the historical narrative near the close of the work where it is said that this doctrine was handed down for five generations, when the sole possessor, finding no converts, committed the teaching to writing and buried the book under one of the pillars of his temple, where after several centuries it was found by a Buddhist monk and restored to the world. There are indications too that it formed the bond of some secret society, the candidate being compelled to kneel before an altar with tapers in his hands, and take a solemn oath not to reveal the mysteries of the order to any person outside the brotherhood under severe penalties. One person who was guilty of such an offence is said to have had his tongue torn out. Pardon me for taking up so much valuable space. May I be permitted to second the request of P.D. for more information regarding this very interesting personage?

E. T. W.

2nd May, 1890.

NOTES BY QUIDNUNC.

The missionaries have never, I suppose, been so much the topic of conversation as now. There is something almost romantic in meeting with men who have lived so much apart from their fellows. The strongly marked individuality born of years of isolation, the pedantic speech engendered by long association with intellectual inferiors, the peculiarities of manner which have developed unchecked by the social intercourse which rubs the corners off most of us, all combine to make up an exceedingly interesting personality, and one so little understood that it forms an admirable subject for discussion. It is noticeable that the conversation usually hinges more upon what the missionaries do than upon what they profess. The old charges of hypocrisy and insincerity have been fairly lived down, and diversity of opinion is only found in criticism upon the comparative excellence of the actual work accomplished. I happened to be present the other evening when the subject was somewhat hotly contested. From the particular the conversation lapsed to the general and was finally left to two combatants, one of whom was convinced that whatever dogma Christianity still possessed was a mere hindrance to its spirit, while the other held no less stoutly that to dogmatic Christianity we owed all the good that had been done in the world and that at the very least it was still the best scheme for the general welfare of mankind. One felt inclined more or less to agree with the latter speaker an deven to support him orally, had not a secret consciousness intervened of the utter impracticability of ever reaching logical proof on such a question.

Christianity is the best scheme we know of for the welfare of mankind. Well, when somebody, preacher or otherwise, has forcibly represented it I have, I suppose, more or less believed it. But when anyone, atheist or otherwise, alleges that orthodox Christianity (I am speaking at present of the dogma, be it observed, and not of the spirit of Christianity) has done more harm than good, I begin to question how far I really do believe that Christianity is the best scheme for benefiting mankind. Christians, of course, have done much good. This is not the question. Is the goodness of their

action due to the inspiration of Christ's spiritual presence in their hearts, consequent on their acceptance of his atonement, destroying natural vice and overcoming natural indolence, or is it due to the good that is in all men, in some more than in others, asserting itself in spite of the superstition that would clog its action and divert its aims? How is that point to be settled? It involves the whole of history. It involves racial comparison. In meteorological and astronomical observations you "correct" for temperature, for pressure, for height above sea-level, etc., and finally for personal equation. What tremendous "corrections" are necessary in deciding how much good and how much harm Christianity has done! Suppose a member of the missionary conference were to measure scientifically the probable effect of Christianity on his converts; how would he set about it? Well, his first step would be something as follows:—

- a. Estimate what the average Roman was in the year one.
- b. Estimate what the average Chinaman was at the same time.
- c. Reduce them to a common measure by adding to or deducting from the character of each the necessary percentages of the various characteristics; intelligence, pluck, sympathy, cunning, stamina, altruism, etc., etc.
- d. Estimate what the "corrected" Roman would have become after so much Christianity, from what the "uncorrected" did become.
- e. Estimate what the "corrected" Chinaman would have become without Christianity, from what the "uncorrected" did become after a similar interval under "uncorrected" circumstances without Christianity, *per diem* on the average human heart.

The above are, of course, only the barest preliminaries, but who is sufficient even for these things? It need scarcely be said that not after such a manner is the assertion generally made. "This is not the method," as Newman says "by which the argument becomes a demonstration. Such a method used (by one) in controversy against men who are unprepared personally for the question will but issue in his retreat along a series of major propositions, farther and farther back till he and they find themselves in a land of shadows where the light is as darkness."

What then is the proof? If truth sits in an impregnable fortress, and we can never hope to reach her by direct attack, if she explores over lines of argument with hidden sophistries, impales our boldest conclusions on hideous dilemmas, and drowns in her wet ditches our few surviving theories, are we condemned to tread for ever the tedious and vicious circle of investigation which our intellect has vainly drawn? It is obvious that we are; unless we are wise enough at last to trust to the leadership of the illative sense, to raise the impracticable siege and to remove our forces to high *a priori* grounds. And this, I take it, is just what your missionary does. "I have no scheme for the welfare of mankind," he says. "I go to take Christ to the heathen, not to improve them. It will improve them, I believe, but that is in God's hands. Human knowledge may demonstrate that I am doing harm,—so much the worse for merely human knowledge. I am satisfied that the Gospel as I feel it is the one thing needful. I am indifferent to apparent results; the real results must be good. What to me are your proofs? My faith is not founded on reason and cannot be shaken by its arguments." A fanatic, you say? Yes, but a force.

To be possessed by an idea is to attain the highest human felicity, but it is not given to everybody to be a fanatic. And the man who must face resolutely the "spectres of the mind" even though he never lays them, to whom any inward

conviction to which his reason refuses an *impugnatio*, is a mere figment of the imagination, must always command respect. To him every question presents two sides and he fulfils a useful function in maintaining the balance of both. When others would drive society headlong he is the drag to regulate the speed. But his virtues are negative rather than positive. He does not produce. If he is to do anything it must be by those who are unrestrained by his own mental attitude. He must use the fanatic. "My good friend," he says to him, "our interests are largely identical. It is true that with your dogmas I have no concern at all. I do not believe that the heathen are going to perdition and I am unable therefore, to share your aspirations for their deliverance. The number of converts to your particular system of belief, your lists of communicants and baptised persons, all those things in fact which you consider the direct results of your labours are to me as nothing. But then what you consider indirect results, your hospitals, your schools, your relief funds and the numerous agencies by which you seek to draw fish into the gospel net, these to me are of inestimable value. And happily your good works form a larger portion of your labours than your creed warrants. I would rather you did not teach your peculiar dogmas to the heathen, but since you believe that your energy, your self denial and your devotion are inseparably bound up with them, I must even accept that part of your work for the sake of its more valuable constituents. It was long before the Church concerned herself with the civilisation of others and our altruism is not yet sufficiently evolved for a new propaganda. When the day comes we shall bid you good bye, but until then we shall bid you God speed."

PRIVATE BILLS ALTERING MEMORANDUMS OF ASSOCIATION OF COMPANIES.

The following is the report (made at the close of the last session) of the Select Committee appointed to consider and report under what circumstances or upon what conditions, if any, private Bills altering the terms of the memorandum of association of companies ought to be allowed to pass:—

"That the committee have met, and have considered the matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following report:

"That it is expedient that power be given by a general act to companies incorporated under the Companies Acts, to alter or extend by special resolution their memorandum of association within the limits, and subject to the conditions hereinafter mentioned, subject to the confirmation of the High Court of Justice in England and Ireland, and the Court of Session in Scotland, provided that every member of the company, who by himself, or his authorised agent, has expressed his dissent from such special resolution at either of the meetings held for passing or confirming the same, and every holder of debentures or debenture stock charged on the undertaking of the company, and any person or class of persons whose interests will, in the opinion of the court, be directly affected by the proposed alteration, should, subject to rules to be made for the purpose by the court, have power to appear before the court and show cause against the confirmation of such special resolution.

"The limits and conditions above referred to are—(1.) That where the alteration has relation to the objects of the company expressed in its memorandum, the new or extended objects be cognate with or ancillary to the principal objects of the company expressed in its memorandum of association or some of them. (2.) That the application for the proposed alteration be based upon circumstances which have arisen since the

registration of the company. That inasmuch as a considerable interval may elapse before such general law be passed, and it would not be right in the meantime to place an absolute barrier in the way of obtaining an alteration in the memorandum of association of a company, the foregoing recommendations should afford the guide as to the method in which Bills for that purpose should be dealt with by Parliament, subject to the following conditions: (1.) That every Bill promoted by a company incorporated under the Companies Acts for an alteration of its memorandum of association, be approved by a special resolution of the company, and the Standing Orders of the two Houses of Parliament be in other respects complied with. (2.) That if the Bill be read a second time, and there are any debentures or debenture stock charged on the undertaking of the company, the Bill be not further proceeded with, unless and until notice of the application has been or be given to the holders of such debentures or debenture stock, and that such debenture or debenture stock holders be allowed to petition against and be heard in opposition to the Bill. (3.) If the committee on the Bill are of opinion that notice ought to be given to any persons or class of persons whose interests will be directly affected by the proposed alteration, the committee may direct notice of the Bill to be given to such persons or class of persons, and may allow such persons or class of persons to be heard in opposition to the Bill."—*The Law Times*.

THE WRECK OF THE ULYSSES.

From members of the crew of the Ocean steamship *Ulysses*, who reached Yokohama in the *Mogul*, we have learned further particulars in connection with the wreck of the first named vessel.

The *Ulysses* left Yokohama on Sunday, the 20th, under the command of Captain Butler, bound for Kobe. She started at daylight and steamed for some hours against a strong head wind, but, being light, had eventually to get under the lee of Rock Island where she lay all Sunday and till about daybreak on Monday morning. About 5.30 a.m. on Monday she resumed her voyage, and all went well till about ten minutes past eleven the same night, when a dim light was sighted on the port bow, but it had hardly been reported when the ship, going some 12 to 13 knots, crashed on to sunken rocks, and plunging forward at length brought up hard and fast. The night, it should be said, was misty, and a heavy rain was falling at the time. From the noise of the breakers around it now became apparent that the ship was all but surrounded by rocks. The wells were at once sounded, the steamer bumping heavily the while both fore and aft, especially forward, and gradually listing over to port till her port rail was under water, and her deck was exposed to the heavy seas that drove up against her. Rockets were fired and the boats were ordered out. Lights soon began to appear on the shore, which lay on the starboard hand, and from their movements it was judged that boats were being launched. These, however, could not get out to the ship, being apparently stopped some distance from the shore, and by the gleam of the rockets it could be seen that their crews had landed on a reef lying about a hundred yards off on the starboard beam, and running parallel with the steamer's keel. The intention undoubtedly was to render succour in the event of an attempt being made to leave the ship, but the shore people evidently were disinclined to trust their sampans in the nasty seas which ran between the reef and the ship. Examination now showed that there were 3 feet of water forward, 5 feet amidships and 7 feet aft. The pumps were started and kept going all the while; orders were given to go full speed

astern with the engines with the view of attempting to back the ship off, but as she was gradually filling, and listing still further, and besides being manifestly severely damaged, the endeavour was abandoned. Every possible preparation was made to secure the safety of the passengers (of whom there were two gentlemen) the crew, and the ship. At the first appearance of dawn boats from the shore came off, among the first to get on board being officials who were unable to speak English but gave the officers to understand that they would be welcome on shore. With daylight it became apparent that serious as the vessel's position undoubtedly was, there need be no immediate apprehension as to her leaving the rocks and sinking in deep water. Her situation, however, was almost a hopeless one. Astern of her were rocks, some covered and others hidden, between which she had passed before striking; a few yards off on her starboard quarter was the rock on which the *Carmarthenshire* struck some time ago; ahead of her, right under the bows, was a group of upstanding rocks against which she had almost run her stem; while a sunken reef a little abaft the main-mast had torn a huge hole in her port side and another had similarly smashed in the same side forward. The ship in fact was practically in a nest of reefs. In the barrier that stretched along between her and the shore, was a narrow channel through which the boats might have passed had those on board known of its existence, but at low water this passage was dry. The boats, having been lowered, were loaded with the belongings of the passengers, officers and men in readiness to be conveyed ashore; and it is worthy of note that the Chinese compradore and cooks were absolutely the first to leave the ship, hurriedly bundling themselves into the first sampan that they could requisition. Operations were begun as soon as possible for the purpose of removing the people and as many of the moveables as could be taken ashore; the passengers, the doctor and the stewardess being first sent to land, and eventually at twenty minutes past four in the afternoon the ship was left, it being impossible for any one to live on board, and the last boats pulled ashore. Just previous to coming away the starboard rigging of the foremast was cut, and as the boats neared the shore the mast broke short off at the deck and went over the port side. It took twenty minutes hard pulling to get to the beach, where hundreds of Japanese had assembled, and these rendered every assistance to the crew in discharging the boats. Their conduct in regard to the property which thus passed through their hands was marked by the most perfect honesty, the crew recalling in terms of praise the fact that one small boy hunted most industriously for the owner of some books of cigarette papers which he had picked up. Having hauled up the boats and disposed of their cargoes in places of safety, the local authorities lodged the captain and officers in a hotel in the only landward street of the town, the sailors being consigned to one house and the firemen to another near the beach. On the following day (Tuesday) a visit was again made to the ship to save various property which it had been found impracticable to carry away on Monday. It was found that she had listed so far to port that it was impossible to walk along the decks and the rocks were still grinding at her bottom. She had so far filled with water that the rats found it advisable to seek other quarters and were seen swimming about. The boats remained by her for several hours, and before leaving her finally the crew cut the starboard rigging of the mainmast which, strange to say, however, still remained in its place. It should be said that the captain was the last man to leave the ship on both occasions, and the men bear willing testimony to the conduct of Captain Butler and his officers, who acted in the emergency with the utmost

coolness and courage. On Thursday the *Mogul* hove in sight and at half-past four the same afternoon the doctor, the second and third officers, the second, third and fourth engineers, 9 sailors, 3 quartermasters, 4 stewards, 1 lamp trimmer, 9 firemen, 2 greasers, 1 store-keeper, and the second cook went on board and were brought up to Yokohama. There remain at the scene of the wreck the captain, chief officer, chief engineer, chief steward, head-cook, stewardess, boatswain, carpenter, and one quartermaster. The ship appears to have struck in the Narrows of Izumi Strait, not far from the Tominaga Light.—*Japan Mail*, 28th April.

Jur Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 5th May.

Before Sir RICHARD RENNIE, Chief Justice.

AGRA BANK v. RAPHAEL.

The hearing of this case was resumed, Mr. R. E. Wainwright again appearing for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson for the defendant. The case had been adjourned from the last occasion for his Lordship to consider whether there was any case for the defendant's counsel to answer.

Upon taking his seat, his Lordship said:—I think I have already explained to you, Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Wainwright, that the case must go on—I cannot stop it at this stage. It is unnecessary for me to say more.

Mr. WILKINSON then proceeded with his argument on behalf of the defendant, and was going on to refer to proceedings which took place in 1878 between Raphael and Benjamin, when his Lordship interposed and said he could not go so far back unless something very startling depended upon it.

Mr. WILKINSON then proceeded to read correspondence to show that at the time of the sale of the property Raphael believed Benjamin to be indebted to him.

HIS LORDSHIP—That seems to me to be immaterial. As the case stands at present, I think the plaintiffs have made out a strong case. The agreement of April 19th, 1881, to my mind shows the clearest possible intention on the part of the defendant to waive any possible claim to lien; but I go further than that. It seems to me that the whole of the plaintiffs' case establishes this fact—that the property account is separate from the general accounts. As to lien, as the matter now stands, the accounts, which it is suggested Mr. Raphael accepted, show that the purchase money was practically paid in advance and therefore there was nothing to have a lien for. Unless you can satisfy me that the agreement bears a totally different construction from that which the plaintiffs put upon it and which I am inclined to put upon it, I must decide against you.

Mr. WILKINSON said he was quite prepared to show that. After reading further correspondence, the learned counsel said he would proceed to call evidence to prove that the accounts upon which the plaintiffs relied did not show in any way that Raphael was indebted to Benjamin on the property account.

CHARLES HENRY DALLAS, public accountant, called and examined by Mr. Wilkinson, said he had made a summary and re-statement of the account rendered by Benjamin in the suit of Raphael v. Benjamin. It was up to March 31st, 1881. The property account did not throw any light on the position of the parties with regard to the payment of the purchase money. It appeared to be a copy of an account standing in Benjamin's own ledger, and showed that property was acquired on the account for Tls. 27,730, and sold for Tls. 30,000. The account

did not state that Raphael had been credited with the half of Tls. 30,000, but that the property account had been credited. The effect of crediting the account in that way was not to credit one of the half owners with the amount; but in the other accounts put in Raphael was credited with Tls. 27,730, and that was where he obtained payment, and not in the property account. It did not show at any time whether Raphael was indebted to Benjamin or Benjamin to Raphael in respect of the property. If the accounts were correct, Raphael had been paid or had got an equivalent for the purchase money.

Mr. WILKINSON—Are you able, without going into the accuracy of the accounts, to determine whether Raphael ever was paid for the property?

Witness—If he was paid for the property he was paid in account. If the account always showed a credit in his favour, I should say he was not paid; but if the account, properly made out, showed a balance against him, I suppose that would be considered payment.

HIS LORDSHIP—That is a question of law.

Mr. WILKINSON—You have gone very carefully into the accounts; are you able to state broadly any circumstances with regard to the accounts bearing upon the accuracy of the items charged against Raphael?—that is to say, whether Raphael is chargeable with the items charged to him.

HIS LORDSHIP—This is a one-sided account, and we cannot presume it is absolutely accurate.

Witness—I found that in the accounts at this time (April 1881) and in the next few weeks following there were several large cash payments made by Benjamin to Raphael. The accounts which are made up to December 31st, 1882, by Mr. Corner, show that enormous losses accrued up to September, 1880; and looking at it rather as a practical man than as an accountant, it seems impossible that, if these losses were properly chargeable to Raphael, Benjamin, who must have known them in the winter of 1880, should in the spring of 1881 be continuing to make cash payments, after all transactions between the parties had been closed.

In further examination, the witness said the accounts he had been asked to prepare showed that, leaving everything else out, the amount that ought to have been due for the property only on March 31st, 1881, was Tls. 16,746; but if the whole of Mr. Corner's accounts were correct this account was merged in them and had been paid for.

In cross-examination by Mr. Wainwright, witness said accounts of the same nature could be kept in different ways. What the accounts showed was that the property was originally bought from Raphael for the joint account of Raphael and Benjamin for Tls. 27,730, and that amount was credited to Raphael's individual account.

A number of other questions having been put to the witness with regard to the distinction between the different kinds of accounts connected with the case,

JAMES BUCHANAN, (who made an affirmation in place of taking the customary oath), property and estate agent and sharebroker, was called by Mr. Wilkinson and examined as to the inferences to be drawn from entries in the accounts.

At the conclusion of the witness's examination, his Lordship observed that Mr. Wilkinson had better call his principal witness at once, and that the learned counsel had taken up a good deal of time in proving things that were not disputed.

Mr. WILKINSON replied that he would call the defendant next day. His case was that payment had not been made for the property.

The case was then adjourned till Tuesday at ten o'clock.

6th May.

The hearing of this case was resumed. Mr. R. E. Wainwright was for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP, upon taking his seat, observed that from what he was reported to have said on the previous day it seemed that a misunderstanding had arisen. He had, it appeared, suggested that Mr. Wilkinson had been putting questions regarding actual payments unnecessarily, being at the time under the impression that Mr. Wilkinson was referring to cash payments. A misunderstanding had consequently arisen for which he (the Chief Justice) was more to blame than Mr. Wilkinson.

Mr. WILKINSON said he had never meant cash payments, nor did the witnesses.

The hearing of evidence for the defence was then continued.

RAPHAEL SIDKA RAPHAEL, called and examined by Mr. WILKINSON, said—I am the defendant in this case, and am a merchant residing in Shanghai; and have been in Shanghai for about 20 years. I knew the late Benjamin David Benjamin. The business transactions which led to my suit against him began in 1879. The first entry in the accounts between us is an item on the 11th of March, 1879. The account produced represents an advance against 1,270 S. S. N. shares. That advance I believe he got from the Agra Bank, and was not made to me out of his own money. He gave me a cheque on the Agra Bank. The way in which Benjamin became connected with me in regard to that and other transactions prior to joint account was that he became agent for me while I was busy for one or two months, and gradually he asked me to join him in joint account, to which I agreed. I had the most capital. In the account produced I find a second item representing three Chinese Insurance shares, belonging to me, which I gave him to keep. The entry under date of May 15th refers to a title deed of a portion of the property now in question. It was handed over to him because I sometimes wanted to overdraw my account and he wanted security. He could raise money on it if necessary. On the same day Benjamin mortgaged the property to Robert McQueen. I was aware of the transaction and approved of it. On the 16th July he received from me the other title deeds, and on the 17th Sept. I transferred that portion of the property to Benjamin, and he transferred it to Lester. I was aware that he was transferring it to Lester, and that it was transferred to him by way of mortgage. In December 1879 I was about to go to Bombay, and Benjamin asked me to let him have a half share in the property, and I agreed to let him have it. Before I left for Bombay he showed me several of our accounts, and I saw that my current account had a balance of about Tls. 16,000 in my favour. I asked him to execute a deed of trust so as to give me a lien on the balance, and the deed was executed before I left for Bombay. He would not have done it if he had not owed me the money. When the sum of Tls. 27,730 was credited to me in account, I did not consider that I had been paid for the property; I still owned half. Benjamin subsequently made several mortgages of the property; but no mortgage subsequent to Dec. 23, 1879, was made with my knowledge or consent. It was not intended that Benjamin should be in a position to mortgage the property or deal with it without my consent. Benjamin had control of the shares which were held on joint account. When I returned from Bombay, in May, 1880, I was very indignant at finding the accounts were not ready, and I only obtained them little by little. The letter produced is in my handwriting. It calls upon Benjamin to resign his trusteeship of my children and hand it over to Mr. Myburgh. I wrote the letter because I was becoming suspicious of him.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—And I have a letter in which you thank him for acting as trustee and say that everything is quite correct.

Witness said the letter was written as a matter of etiquette.

Considerable discussion here took place as to the propriety of allowing the witness to give an explanation of a letter which he had written to Benjamin and a reply which he had also written for Benjamin to sign.

HIS LORDSHIP said he did not see of what use the documents, written on both sides by the defendant himself, could be if the defendant was allowed to explain that they bore a meaning different from the one on the face of them. He should absolutely decline to take notes of the answers to such questions.

Examination continued—Benjamin said that if I kept on pressing him he would "take a diamond and kill himself." He asked me to cancel the trust, but I refused to do so unless I was paid all my balances in full. When I heard that Benjamin was pulling down the houses on the property in 1882, I consulted Mr. Robinson and called his attention to the deed of trust.

HIS LORDSHIP said he did not see how Mr. Robinson's opinion could affect the case one way or another.

Mr. WILKINSON said he brought the matter forward because it had been contended on the other side that Raphael saw the houses being pulled down and took no steps with regard thereto.

Examination continued—When I returned from Bombay I had the London and Bombay accounts made up as quickly as possible, but matters were delayed by the other side. Accounts were being taken up to immediately before Christmas 1883, and after that time I was quite unable to continue it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wainwright—The property was mortgaged for Tls. 15,000 on the same day that I bought it, in June, 1876. I paid the remaining part (Tls. 5,000) of the purchase money myself, and paid off the mortgage on May 15th, 1879. It was common knowledge early in 1881 that Benjamin was speculating heavily on his own account. Our joint transactions, of which he had the management, were very numerous. He had no assistants except a Chinese clerk who kept the shipping books. He occasionally rendered me accounts which, as far as they went, were intelligible. When I was pressing Benjamin for money there was no one claiming money from me. I obtained two amounts, Tls. 2,000 and Tls. 1,000, from him. I cannot say what I did with them. In August, 1881, Benjamin never told me that I owed him large sums of money. On Aug. 2nd I received the letter (produced) from Mr. Wainwright, stating that his client (Benjamin) did not propose to hand over to me any shares except in exchange for their full market value, and also stating that I owed Benjamin Tls. 50,000 or Tls. 60,000.

HIS LORDSHIP—You did not pursue proceedings in 1883 and did not take steps to establish your lien. Did it not occur to you that if Benjamin "burst" it would be desirable to make good your title instead of leaving it for seven years?

DEFENDANT—The deed was left with Mr. Robinson, and all my books were away from me, and I can tell you faithfully and honestly, my lord, I forgot all about it.

At the conclusion of Mr. Raphael's evidence, which closed the defendant's case, Mr. Wainwright said he proposed to recall Mr. Corner on the subject of Mr. Dallas's evidence. Mr. Wilkinson intimated that after Mr. Corner's evidence had been taken he should ask for an adjournment until next week.

The Court then adjourned till Wednesday at 10.30.

7th May.

The hearing of this case was resumed, Mr. R. E. Wainwright appearing for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson for the defendant.

DEFENDANT, re-called, swore that he was prepared to show that upon the accounts Benjamin was still indebted to him, as far as a dead man could be, in a sum much larger than Tls. 16,000. He also swore that, at the interview with Mr. Campbell, he (defendant) asserted his right of lien.

Mr. G. R. CORNER, recalled and examined by Mr. Wainwright, said he had seen the account prepared by Mr. Dallas, and did not consider it showed the position of the parties more clearly than the accounts prepared by Benjamin and himself. He should understand from the account produced that Benjamin and Raphael jointly bought the property on joint account from Raphael for Tls. 27,500 which with other charges added came to Tls. 27,730. It was proper to debit the account with interest, and to keep the rent and expenses separate from the property account. Taken in conjunction with Raphael's individual account, the property account showed that the property had been paid for in the general account.

Cross-examined by Mr. WILKINSON—It was proper, before closing the property account, to bring in the profits and rents and set them off against the interest. The property account by itself did not show if a profit or loss had been made.

By the COURT—In a case of this kind there would not be money passing in payment at all. It would be simply a book entry; the property account would be credited and some other account debited.

Mr. WILKINSON said that Mr. Corner and Mr. Dallas seemed to be agreed.

At the conclusion of the evidence, his Lordship observed that at present there did not seem to be any serious question of law involved, but the intention was the principal point to be looked at. The case was adjourned till Monday next at 10 a.m.

H.B.M.'s CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 8th May.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.,
Assistant Judge.

LEMON v. GREGORY.

This was a claim by an auctioneer and commission agent, carrying on business at Shanghai under the style of Geo. Lemon & Co., to recover from John H. Gregory, in the employment of the I. M. Customs, \$24.55, balance of account for goods sold and delivered in February last.

Mr. BROWETT, who appeared for the defendant, admitted the claim but asked that an order should be made for the retention of the amount, which he proposed to pay into court. The defendant had a claim against the plaintiff, but, being an American citizen, could not take out a cross-summons. Proceedings were being taken in the United States Court for the recovery of the amount owed by the present plaintiff, which was larger than the sum now sued for.

Plaintiff said he had not taken proceedings earlier because defendant asked for time. When he last presented his bill, defendant wanted to fight.

HIS WORSHIP said he did not think the case was one in which to make the order asked for. The plaintiff appeared to be in business, and if a judgment was obtained against him no doubt he would pay. There was no reason why plaintiff should be delayed in recovering the money that was admitted to be due.

Judgment for the plaintiff, with costs.

MUSIC AND MEAT.—It may interest our readers to know, on the authority of the "Musical World" (London), that the great songstress, Adelina Patti, habitually uses Liebig Company's Extract of Meat as a vocal and nerve "refresher."

CHARGE OF FRAUD AT
SHANGHAI.

At the Mixed Court yesterday afternoon, before the Magistrate Tsai and Mr. Geo. Brown (British Assessor), a Chinaman named Chang Ping-wha was charged with obtaining and fraudulently or without payment converting to his own use four cases of velvets, the property of W. Birt & Co. The accused was one of the plaintiffs in the action which was brought some time ago at the Supreme Court to recover Tls. 8,000 from Messrs. Birt & Co.

Mr. Wainwright appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson for the defence.

J. O. LIDDELL, called by Mr. Wainwright, said:—I am a partner in the firm of W. Birt & Co. Last year we received an order from the Têng-yuen hong for certain goods. Among them were a lot of velvets. The goods came by different steamers. The four cases in question came by the *Orestes*. They were stored in the godowns of the Shanghai and Hongkew Associated Wharves. No delivery order was given but the bill of lading was handed to Yin Shen-fu, our godown keeper, with instructions to bring the goods into our godowns. They were never brought there. They were delivered from the wharves on October 22. I produce the bill of lading with an endorsement on it showing to whom they were delivered, from godown No. 15 of the Associated Wharves. That delivery was not made with our knowledge or consent. We have never been paid for the goods and have never paid duty on them. The duty has been paid. It had to be paid before the goods could be taken away from the wharves. It was paid by a bank order of the Têng-yuen hong on the Ya-mow bank. I caused inquiries to be made at the Têng-yuen hong about the goods, by the police and my own people. We received bargain money from the Têng-yuen hong.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wilkinson—I am now the manager of Birt & Co. here. The goods were imported by us for the Têng-yuen hong on commission terms. I produce the original contract. Yin Shen-fu's duties included soliciting orders from the Chinese. He received money from Chinese in payment for goods. Under instructions from Mr. Vale, it was his duty to deliver goods to Chinese. I cannot say if the Chinese could know what instructions Yin Shen-fu received from Mr. Vale. In the ordinary course, if the Têng-yuen hong paid the money they would most likely pay it through Yin Shen-fu. I do not know who handed the bill of lading to Yin Shen-fu, and I do not know what instructions he got, I had nothing to do with it.

Mr. WILKINSON here objected to the witness giving evidence on matters about which he knew nothing.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT contended that the witness could depose officially to facts as the head of the firm.

Cross-examination continued—I know nothing about this bill of lading except what some one else has told me. I do not know the amount of the bank order with which the duty was paid. I cannot tell the date when we asked the police to enquire at the hong. Our own people were sent in December. I do not know the day. I do not know whether all the goods sold to the Têng-yuen hong before this shipment had been paid for. I cannot say whether anyone looked after the delivery of the goods into the godown. It was some time in December when I first knew the goods were not in our godown. I learned it from my brother. Yin Shen-fu had run away at that time. Some time in November Yin Shen-fu admitted that goods were not in the godown which ought to be there. I cannot say how long Yin Shen-fu remained in our employ after his confession; I was employed in another department of the business.

Re-examined by Mr. WAINWRIGHT—It was no part of my duty to know the amount of duty to be payable on the goods.

HAROLD VALE stated—I had charge of Birt & Co.'s import business up to the end of last year, and have practically had charge of it since then. After goods which Birt & Co. had ordered for native firms arrived, they were only delivered on payment for them in cash or by approved native bank orders. On payment, the first thing was to obtain a delivery order. The Têng-yuen hong was to pay the duty on these goods. I had no concern with the amount of the duty or how it was paid, except that to oblige a customer I might put the goods through the Custom House for him. I gave no delivery order for the four cases of velvets in question. I never received payment for them. I gave the bill of lading to Yin Shen-fu, in order that he might bring the goods up to our godowns. They were never brought. There had been other transactions with the Têng-yuen hong, and I had issued delivery orders in their favour before. Yin Shen-fu did not remain in the employ of the firm after he had confessed. He remained about the premises for some time. He seemed repentant, and helped me to trace goods that were missing. That was the only reason why he remained about the premises. I caused inquiries to be made about goods which the Têng-yuen hong ought to have taken up and had not taken up. I sent repeatedly, asking them to take the goods. I produce a list I sent of goods not taken up. It includes the four cases of velvets. A man came who represented himself as coming from the hong. Neither he nor anyone else ever said the hong had taken delivery of the four cases. The man in question came rather late at night and said he would return and investigate the matter, but did not come back again. Other goods imported for the same hong have disappeared and have not been paid for. They were also goods of which we had not given delivery. They were goods in our own godowns.

Cross-examined by Mr. WILKINSON—I did not receive any delivery order with the bill of lading from the bank. From time to time bills of lading were given by W. Birt & Co. to consignees of cargo to take delivery. The difference would be that instead of this being delivered to Birt's Wharf it would be delivered to W. Birt & Co., and instead of the signature of Birt's Wharf Co., it would be that of W. Birt & Co. I do not suppose an ordinary Chinaman would understand the distinction. Yin Shen-fu admitted that goods had been removed from the godown without delivery orders, and that some of them were goods destined for the Têng-yuen hong. I suppose what Yin Shen-fu admitted amounted to embezzlement. I saw him in tears. I understood that Yin Shen-fu admitted that he had stolen goods from the godown.

Re-examined by Mr. WAINWRIGHT—The list produced does not contain any goods which I knew were not in the godown. The hong never asked for delivery of these goods. If I had wanted Yin Shen-fu to deliver the goods on payment I should not simply have handed him the bill of lading endorsed in blank; in this case I should have sent the money to the bank and asked them to make the document in favour of W. Birt & Co. If there had been money in hand on account of goods for the hong, they would have been entitled to it. They had never applied for it.

Mr. WILKINSON—The application will be made forthwith.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—Then you won't get it.

Inspector KEELING said—I was asked to make some inquiries by Birt & Co. about the cases of velvets. I made them on Dec. 7 at the Têng-yuen hong, of Chang Ping-wha. I was in company with a Chinese detective. I asked Chang Ping-wha if he had taken delivery of four cases

of velvets from the wharf on Oct. 22. I told him the number of the godown and the marks and numbers. He said he had never seen the goods and knew nothing about them. I made these inquiries through the native detective. All the inquiries were not addressed to Chang Ping-wha, but he was present throughout. The native examined the books, but found nothing relating to the four cases of velvets.

TSEN TSAO-CHEN, native detective, said—I remember going with the last witness to the Têng-yuen hong, on December 7th, at 9 a.m. We saw Chang Ping-wha and the other man there. I asked them if they had had four cases of velvets from No. 15 godown on the Hongkew Wharf, and they replied that they had not. Chang Ping-wha said that according to custom when dealing with a foreign firm the goods could only be obtained after payment. I saw an entry of some cases of velvets in a book which Chang Ping-wha showed me, and I told Inspector Keeling about it.

A book was here produced in court for the witness to examine, and he identified the entry in it as the one which was shown him. Inspector Keeling, however, said the book was not the one which was shown him on his visit. On that occasion he did not see the English marks and numbers of the cases in any book. He denied that the native detective told him anything about the marks and numbers being in the book.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT accordingly asked for this book to be produced, and, on being informed that it was not in court complained that the order of the magistrate to bring all books into Court had not been complied with.

The proceedings were here temporarily suspended for the small book in question to be produced; and it was brought into Court after about twenty minutes.

The native detective, recalled, said the book was somewhat like the book he saw, but he could not identify any entry.

Inspector KEELING, recalled, identified the small book as the one shown to him. He recognised in it an entry with the same mark as in the bill of lading; but with different numbers. If the native detective have said anything about the entry, he would not have gone on to the wharf, as he did, to make further inquiries.

The case was then adjourned till Tuesday next. Mr. Wainwright raised an objection against bail being allowed, but the objection was overruled.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Bayern*, for Genoa—Mr. A. Schroers. For Bremen—Captain Samme, Messrs. Ebbs, Wu Lah and Mam Tien Ying. For Hongkong—Messrs. Reynell, Suidter, Maxwell.

Per str. *Higo Maru*, for Jinsen—Mr. Jas. Scott.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Smith and 2 infants, Mrs. J. H. McMichael and infant, Messrs. J. G. Purdon and Kentatus. For Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Clifford, Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hill, Misses Ure, Clifford and L. Elton, Messrs. C. W. Ure, H. Cayley, Y. Nakomure and J. F. Moller. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Westall and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Paul King, Messrs. C. E. Bignore, Chas. Cromie and Mijimoto. For London—Commander A. Gallaway, and Mr. S. Walker.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Kiukiang—Mr. E. H. Kenney. For Hankow—Messrs. W. G. Gordon, W. V. Sentance, J. Findlay, J. F. Rodewald, F. Huchting, C. A. Pullan, Samson, C. Cole, J. Welch, T. Wood, H. Pullen, R. Remedios, J. Jesus, J. D'Aeth, A. Shewan, da Cruz and Craven.

Per str. *Yangtsé*, for Hongkong—Messrs. S. J. Danby, W. L. Maclean, Fraser Smith and A. Clarke. For Marseilles—Mrs. L. Bennett, and Mr. Durant.

Per str. *Chungking*, for Foochow—Mr. T. J. Anderson—Messrs. G. Price and J. Gitten.

Per str. *Wuchang*, for Tientsin—Major Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rhein, and Capt. Macdonogh.

Per str. *Haeting*, for Chefoo, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Messrs. Mordhorst and Wilkins.

Per str. *Hohio*, for Chefoo—Mr. Uriate. For Tientsin—Capt. Brown.

Per str. *Ichang*, for Ningpo—Mr. Kleinwächter.

Per str. *Glenarry*, for Kobe—Capt. R. Brown.

Per str. *Yuenwo*, for Hankow—Messrs. Crosthwaite, W. McDonald, Overbeck (2), Carilli, A. Stewart, Orman and de Souza.

Per str. *Canton*, for Hongkong—Messrs. H. S. Schmidt and McLachlan.

Per str. *Fungshun*, for Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Collins.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, for Foochow—Mr. J. Gurney.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Rohilla*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Boyle, and Commander V. A. Tisdall. From Brindisi—Rev. M. Oskikawa, Messrs. R. Westall, A. Brown and Grant, P. Hagne. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. W. Bridie, Rev. and Mrs. B. C. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Hoitt, Mr. and Mrs. Kenmore, Rev. J. B. Ost and servant, Rev. A. Sicafoose, Rev. R. H. Graves, Rev. F. Hubrig, Dr. J. G. and Mrs. Kerr, Dr. M. Fulton, Dr. Happer, Dr. Thwing, Misses Fieldie, Wood, Ridley, H. Noyes, Shoffner, Butler, Coit, and M. McMinn, Messrs. Arnold, Schaub and servant, Schlumberger, Taen, Taen, R. D. Master, Ching Ke Sheung and servant, T. W. Pearce, Major Williamson.

Per str. *H.M.S. Plover*, from *Imperieuse*—Capt. W. H. May, R.N., and Lieut. Duff, R.N. Per str. *Oceanien*, from Japan—Rev. and Mrs. Hodges, Misses Lindon, Messrs. Tuck Lee, A. Mow, Carrell, Gibb, MacGrath, Mosley and Hall.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, from Yokohama, &c.—Mrs. Leonard, Dr. and Mrs. Porter and 3 children, Capt. J. James, Rev. H. Loomis. Dr. W. R. Lambuth, Rev. J. Curtis, Misses Leonard, Kate Leonard, Graham, Carr, Atkinson, Gaines and Graves, Messrs. W. Inlik,

H. E. Shadgett, Pallanjee, C. H. Purcell and Hatori.

Per str. *Yuenwo*, from Hankow—Rev. Little and family, Rev. Hykes and family, Messrs. Howe, Funk and Rhind, Dr. Beebe, Messrs. Ferguson, Williams, Nichols and Wright.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Bryson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Murray and family, Dr. and Miss Roberts, Messrs. Bryant and Evans.

Per str. *Glenfalloch*, from Hongkong—Mr. Gardiner.

Per str. *Chintung*, from Newchwang via Chefoo—Mr. Moritzky.

Per str. *Poochi*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—The Reverends Wynhoven, Moscarella, P. Wallen Tela and Marune.

Per str. *Fuyew*, from Ningpo—Rev. and Mrs. Soothill and 2 children, and Mr. Senna.

Per str. *Kiangyu*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Abbey, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Lowry, child and amah.

Per str. *Canton*, from Hongkong via Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tung, and Rev. J. C. Gibson.

Per str. *Hsinyu*, from Tientsin—Mr. Leider.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Messrs. Smith and Schultz.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Hankow—Dr. Hodge, Miss Sugden, Messrs. Barber and Montell.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Hankow—Capt. McDonagh, Messrs. Moseley and Shelloum.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins and child, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Dr. Blodgett, Misses C. Murdock and Evans, Messrs. E. Runge and Goodrich.

Per str. *Taku*, from Newchwang and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Bostick, Mr. and Mrs. Ohlinger, child and servant, Messrs. Bouley and servant, Nesbitt and Murty.

Per str. *Hacan*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth, Mr. and Mrs. Corbett, H.E. Sheng and Dr. Watson, and Messrs. Mauchan and Jones.

Per str. *Fungshun*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Lees, Miss Winterbotham, Messrs. Butler, De Linde and Schmacker.

Per str. *Yuensang*, from Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Foster, Dr. and Mrs. Lyall, Misses Falkner and Ricketts, and Mr. MacKeever.

Per str. *Taico*, from Hankow—Rev. Madra D. Raachele and Pela Vismara, and Mr. H. A. Collins.

Per str. *Toonan*, from Swatow and Amoy—Rev. Mr. Ashmore.

Per str. *Parthia*, from Vancouver—Mr. J. Gittens.

Per str. *Fuyew*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Partch, Rev. and Mrs. Goddard and 2 children, Mrs. Jenkins, Messrs. Gould and Rizzi.

Per str. *Tungchow*, from Chefoo and Tientsin—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Pilcher, Dr. G. T. Taylor, Rev. W. F. Walker, Rev. J. Wherry, Miss D. Welch, and Mr. Villard.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, from Hankow—Mrs. Robinson, Rev. Sparham, Rev. Archibald, Mrs. Furgeson, Mr. and Mrs. Leaman and 2 children, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Bear, Petre, Dr. Li Hoong, Mrs. Lee, Misses Hasple, Lane, Mitchell and Bell, Messrs. Meigs, Woodbridge and Chang.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Weshard, Rev. Dr. Sites, Rev. Chas. Shaw, Rev. J. Plumb, Rev. Hubbard, Rev. Walker, Rev. and Mrs. Hartwell, Rev. H. Lacy, Misses Bonafield, Boileau, Goldie, Josie Walker and Woodhall, and Mr. Brewster.

Per str. *Taisang*, from Hongkong—Bishop and Mrs. Burdon, Messrs. Foster, Goodall and Thomson.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. A. Orr Ewing, and Dr. Grant.

Per str. *Sud*, from Hankow—Messrs. Wedemeyer and Boyd.

Per str. *Pechili*, from Tientsin via Chefoo—Capt. Bassett.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Misses Corbin, Higgenbotham, Righter, Milligan, Jursen, Stewart and Franch, Messrs. G. Kuitau and C. McCaslin.

Per str. *Hsinsheng*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Fulton and 4 children, Mrs. Watson, and Mr. Barton.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 8th May, 1890.

PIECE GOODS.—There is very little change in the position of our market since we wrote last week. Business has been, perhaps, a trifle more general, but is still confined to "cash" transactions to a great extent, and at lower prices of course. The greatest decline is, naturally, in the common to medium makes of 8 1/2-lbs. Shirtings, the maximum fall privately appearing to be about six to seven candareens from rates ruling two months ago. The trouble is to place any quantity even at this decline, which is not so very serious after all, being fully made up for by exchange, but the small demand is soon satisfied and the dealers then lower their offers again. To Tientsin must be attributed chiefly the present quietness, buyers for that Port acting with much more than the usual caution, a better demand for Sheetings the last few days, however, would seem to point to a slight improvement in that market. Ningpo is doing a fair trade and keeps up the prices of a few of the better makes of Shirtings at auction. Sterling rates have been very unsteady and, as the course of our market depends so much on them, upsets all calculations. The natives appear doomed to suffer always on their indent business by the contrariety of Exchange—just as they are recovering from the reverses they met with two years ago, when transactions were largely on a sterling basis and rates went down, they are caught the other way, and are now in the uncomfortable position of having goods offered to them all round some 5 per cent. cheaper than they have indentured for. These are the times when any little irregularities in manufacture or finish show themselves most prominently! Fortunately the Manchester market is following the upward course as well, which, in checking shipments, must have a strengthening tendency this side. The Export for last month is very moderate, being, as advised privately, 39 million yards of Plain Cottons to Hongkong and China and only 3,000 bales Yarn, including shipments to Japan, 500 bales being for Hongkong, and 1,000 bales for Shanghai. Clearances continue very satisfactory, the extent of the deliveries showing that the indent business is evidently increasing.

Grey Shirtings.—8 1/2-lbs.—Sales of over 30,000 pieces are reported, made up of the following chops—Blue Elephant £1.38, Blue Bat (Canadian) £1.50, Jinkee Red Stag £1.59, Blue Swan and Two Flag £1.63, Blue Cash £1.64, Red Joss and Gold Sycee £1.65, Red Pagoda £1.67 1/2 (net), Green Dragon and 7 children £1.70 less 1 per cent., Blue Dragon and 6 Women £1.74 less 1 per cent., and Deenhurst Eagle (unlettered) £1.85. Best makes are fairly steady, in fact at auction are higher in some cases, but below these prices are very weak at a decline of from four to six candareens on previous sales privately, and slightly under last week's rates at auction.

Light weights.—A sale of 2,000 pieces 5-lbs. Dog at £0.85 has been made, but as a rule the market is dull, especially for 7-lbs, auction rates looking very weak.

Heavy weights.—Several transactions have to be recorded, but they are all of small quantities, amounting to only about 10/12,000 pieces, namely, 9 1/2-lbs. Red Horse Head A £2.11; 10-lbs. Sun-lee Pagoda £1.90, ditto Blue Archer £2.06, and Blue Vase £2.12 1/2; 10 1/2-lbs. Black and Gold Flower £2.12 and 11-lbs. Blue Artillery £2.32 1/2 and Monkey and Dog £2.37 1/2. There is very little immediate demand, what there is being filled to a large extent by the auction offerings and indent goods.

12-lbs., 36-inch.—There is not much doing apparently, the only sale being Guardsman C.C. at £2.63, and this is 12 1/2-lbs!

White Shirtings.—64 reed.—No sales are particularly noted, but some best makes have been taken at a decline. At auction rates are very weak and show a drop of from 3 to 6 candareens below last week's prices.

72-reed.—The demand is fairly steady, and, although prices are easier at auction, they continue to go off well. The only transaction to record is Lee-tai Sailor at £1.98. Finer qualities are still in request, and sales are reported of 3,500 pieces Tai-wo Gold 2 Deer at £2.22 1/2, and Flower at £2.50, clearances keeping very good. White Fishes of superior quality are wanted, but the only sale published is at £2.50.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—There is a fair demand for good Mexican makes, especially from £1.25 to £1.30 for Foochow, but they appear scarce and prices are firm. Sales reported are Blue Dragon and Flag at £1.27, and Red Stag B at £1.30, auction chops realising steady rates.

8-lbs.—No private business is reported but at public sales prices are generally firmer.

Jeans.—English.—A sale of 1,200 pieces Beaver is reported at £1.80, the market being weak and declining.

Drills.—English.—As far as we can gather no business has taken place, the season being scarcely on yet.

American.—These are in almost the same position, the only sale mentioned being 1,500 pieces Walrus at £2.37 1/2 less 1 per cent.

Sheetings.—English.—There has been a slight revival in the demand for Tientsin and some 10,000 pieces have changed hands, chiefly on a cash basis. Sales are—12-lbs. Two Stars at £2.09, and in 14-lbs.—Jinkee Dragon £1.70, Tunsin Sleigh £2.30, Large Flag No. 2 £2.31, Horse and Gun £2.40, Double Man Head £2.50, and Pig's Head £2.51 1/2.

American.—The enquiry that sprang up at the close of last mail still continues and business to extent of nearly 30,000 pieces is reported, chiefly in the light weights, as the following quotations show—Blue Butterfly £2.25, Sea Pig's Head £2.32, Blue Joss BB £2.37 1/2, Two Duck £2.40, Phoenix No. 2 £2.46, Incense Burner, £2.47 1/2, Two Men £2.55, Blue Joss £2.57 1/2, and Piedmont Horse £2.67 1/2, the market closing steady.

Cotton Yarn.—English.—There is a fair demand and sales have been made "to arrive" at firm rates, prospects looking favorable.

Bombay.—The expected decline has commenced in 10s. and 20s., prices being generally a quarter to half a tael lower. 16s. are steady, the decline in *Framjee Petit's* being on account of short weight and irregularities in the packing. Sales amount to 1786 bales as under:—

No. 10s., 50 bales.—*Imperial* ₹51.

No. 12s., 45 bales.—*Oriental Tardew* ₹51 and *Lokmidars* ₹51½.

No. 16s., 691 bales.—*Essa Khulifa* ₹50, *Bombay United* ₹51½, *Dholera* ₹51, *Jubilee*, *Palki* and *Dhobee Ghunt* ₹56, *Western India* ₹56½, *Framjee Petit* ₹57½, *David Mill* ₹58, and *Alexandra (Pagoda)* ₹58½.

No. 20s., 1,000 bales.—*Maholuzmee* ₹53½, *Queen* ₹57½, *Star of India (Mule)* ₹58, *Imperial* and *Soonderdass (Ring)* ₹58½, *Jubilee* ₹58½, *Howard and Bullough* and *James Greaves* ₹59½/59½, *Wimpoda* ₹60 and *Connaught* ₹61½/61½.

Fancy Goods.—There does not appear to have been much done this week. *Turkey Reds* are firm and wanted. *Velvets* are about unchanged at auction but the private demand does not improve, in fact plain *Black* seems almost out of date, *Embossed* kinds taking their place. *Prints* are quieter all round. There is a fair demand for *Cotton Lastings* of special shades and designs, but ordinary and old fashioned makes are very dull. There has been a moderate business altogether in *Dyed Fancies*, but very few particulars are disclosed.

Woolens.—We have still to refer to the auctions for any inkling as to the position of the market for these goods, private sales being, apparently, impracticable, though some inducts, it is rumoured, have been entered into. *Cumlets* show a decline all round, varying from one to five mace a piece on the week according to colour. *Long Ells* are what the natives call "sick", and the re-entry of some old candidates in the auction field went tend to improve matters. *Lastings* are only slightly lower, but *Spanish Stripes* are doing badly. In other goods there appears to be nothing doing.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Biefeld's Report of 9th May:—With the exception of some transactions of importance in Old Iron, there has been very little doing during the week under review, and complaints of the dullness of trade are general.

LEAD.—In sympathy with home rates holders are firmer again, and ₹4.22½ to ₹4.25 is now asked for L.B. "spot." The demand remains, however, slack, and no business has been done.

NAILROADS.—A parcel of 50 tons *Soliers* is reported sold at ₹2.15. Prices are a shade firmer since, and the demand is somewhat better.

IRON WIRE.—This market remains unchanged; stocks in native hands are about 4,000 casks and ample for requirements. 200 casks are reported sold at ₹4.15.

OLD IRON.—At auction 250 tons *London Horse-shoes* were cleared at ₹1.44 to ₹1.48½, and privately 350 tons *London* and *Belgian* were placed at ₹1.54, and 100 tons *Liverpool* and *Glasgow* at ₹1.55. Further sales on record are:—50 tons *Bale Hoops* at ₹1.45; 25 tons *Cart Tyres* at ₹1.80; 20 tons *Boiler Plates* at ₹1.65; 20 tons *Telegraph Wire* at ₹2.05 to ₹2.40, and 40 tons *Telephone* and *Telegraph Wire* at ₹1.78½.

TIN PLATES AND STEEL.—Unchanged.

SPELTER.—There is some demand for the North, but I have not heard of any business being done.

STRAITS TIN.—Small sales are making at ₹26 for *Fok-chok*, and ₹25.20 for *Son-kong*.

COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING is selling in a small way at quotations.

ZINC SHEATHING has been contracted at about quotations.

WHITE METAL.—A parcel of 5 cases, 20/25, was placed at ₹45.75.

MATCHES.—Nothing doing.

SOAP.—Sales of *Bar* continue at previous rates. At auction 10 cases, ea. 10 gross, *Fancy*, were cleared at ₹27 per case.

WINDOW GLASS.—There are no sales on record. Values are without change.

NEEDLES.—40 cases *Crown chop*, 2/0, 3/0, 1/4, have been booked at ₹64.50 per case of 250 mille.

DYES AND COLOURS.—Sales reported:—17,000 bottles, ea. 2 oz., *Blue*, *Tiger chop*, at 8½ cands.; 3,000 tins, ea. 8 oz., *Scarlet*, 6 Boys chop, at 11 cands.; 5,000 bottles *Scarlet*, *Blue Shade*, *Der chop*, at 8 cands.; 5,000 tins, ea. ½ catty, *Violet*, *Woman chop*, at 35½ cands.; 150 cases *Log-wood Extract* at ₹10.50.

BUTTONS AND UMBRELLAS.—Nothing doing.

STEARIN CANDLES.—Small parcels of 15 oz. have been sold at ₹2.30.

HANDKERCHIEFS, TOWELS AND LLAMA BRAID.—Are dull, and sales can only be expected at a concession in prices.

WORM TABLETS.—50 cases square bottles were taken up at 82½ cands.

Kerosine Oil.—Business under this heading has been confined to sales among natives at about last rates.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa (new)* ₹365, (old) ₹385, *Patna (new)* ₹352, *Benares (new)* ₹351.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular of 8th May:—*London* telegrams quote *Silk*—Quiet.

RAW SILKS.—Settlements of all kinds for the period under review are about 1,000 bales, prices paid showing a decline of ₹10 per picul for Nos. 4½ and 5 *Tsatlees* on those ruling a fortnight since.

The only news about the coming crop is that there has been some damage in the *Haining* district.

TATLEES.—Sales are confined to 115 bales of *Blue* and *Yellow Elephant* at quotations.

HANGCHOWS.—No market.

TAYSAMS.—A few bales of *Green Kahings* have been taken at ₹295 for *Almond Flower No. 1*.

YELLOW SILKS.—Only 40 piculs have changed hands at ₹225 for *Pooyung* and at ₹221½ for *Meeyang*.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 1st to the 7th May are about 60 bales of *White Silk*, 125 piculs of *Yellow Silks* and 550 piculs of *Wild Silk*.

RE-REELS.—No fresh business is reported.

WILD SILKS.—The market is quiet but holders decline to accept lower prices. Stocks are about 2,000 piculs.

WASTE SILKS.—Sales have been made this week of *Fine Gum Nos. 1* and *2* at ₹96, *Coarse Gum Nos. 1, 2, 3* at ₹74, *Tussah Waste Nos. 1* and *2* at ₹49½ and 45½ and of *Honan Tussah Cocoons* at ₹50 a 51.

SHANTUNG PONGEES. Nothing doing.

Purchases include:—*TATLEES.*—*Blue Elephant* at ₹365, *Yellow Elephant* at ₹330. *TAYSAM.*—*Green Kahing Almond Flower I* at ₹295. *YELLOW SILK.*—*Pooyung* at ₹225, *Meeyang* at ₹221½. *TUSSAH.*—*Raw ordinary* at ₹105. *RE-REEL TATLEES.*—*Market I* at ₹370, ditto *II* at ₹360, ditto *III* at ₹350.

	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.
Settlements for this mail †	about 1,000	750	1,250	500	500	150 bales.
" for the season † ..	73,000	57,250	58,500	61,500	56,500	57,400 "
Stock	4,500	1,500	2,250	3,500	5,750	4,000 "
Total Arrivals	77,500	58,750	60,750	65,000	62,250	61,400 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export <i>White Silk</i>	4,689	38,252	42,941	7,199	966	1,377	52,483 bales.
" <i>Yellow</i> ..	74	6,255	6,359	4	2,180	119	8,662 "
" <i>Wild</i> ..	4,681	6,215	10,896	21	2	9	10,928 "
	9,444	50,752	60,196	7,224	3,148	1,505	72,073 "
Against in 1888-89	8,353	39,747	48,100	4,758	2,378	1,549	56,785 "
" 1887-88	8,461	40,496	48,957	3,721	2,961	1,774	57,413 "
Export— <i>Waste Silk</i>	16,439	25,027	41,466	72	...	217	41,755 piculs.
" <i>Cocoons</i>	6,713	1,691	8,404	113	...	35	8,562 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 824 piculs *Old Silk Wadding* to London.

" 10 " " to Continent.

Shares.—The business of the week comprises Hongkong Banks at 196 per cent. premium, North China Insurance at £330, Yangtzes at £88½, Hongkong Fires at \$365, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at £230 and 240, Shanghai Gas shares at £200, Shanghai-Sumatra, Tobacco shares at \$1,000, Shanghai Land Investments at £32½, Major Brothers at £50, Sheridan Mines at £24½, Mendotas at £242½ and Selama Tine, \$3 paid, at \$3½.

Exchange.—A Banker's life cannot be a "happy one" just now with silver jumping about as it has been doing. Rates have naturally followed the course of the "white metal" closing to-day very firm. Bar silver is quoted at 46½. Chinese interest is 2 mace, equal to 7½ per cent. per annum. Council transfers were at 1/5½, and the amount on offer for next week is reduced to 35 lakhs. Special allotments have since been made at 1/5½ @ ½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.
(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GERMANY.	N. YK.	HONGKONG.	YOKOHAMA.	INDIA.
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		4 m/s. Priv.	Docty 4 m/s.		T/T.	Rupees T/T.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
Saturday, 3rd.....	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.7	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.80/5.83	5.80/5.83	4.69	88½	27½	73½	308
Monday, 5th.....	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.86/5.89	5.87/5.90	4.72	87½	27½	73½	309
Tuesday, 6th.....	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.85/5.88	5.87/5.90	4.72	88	27½	73½	310
Wednesday, 7th.....	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.82/5.85	5.83/5.86	4.70	88½	27½	73½	310½
Thursday, 8th.....	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.82/5.85	5.83/5.86	4.70	88½	27½	73½	310½
Friday, 9th.....	4.6½	4.7	4.7½	4.7½	4.8	4.8	4.8½	4.8½	5.90/5.93	5.90/5.93	4.75	87½	27½	73½	311½

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 8th May comprised the following Goods:—

	For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.			For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.	
	28,529 pcs.	against 27,620 pcs.	7,500	5,490	9,510	13,020 pcs.		180 pcs.	against 180 pcs.	1,110	680	206	452
Grey Shirtings.....	28,529	against 27,620	7,500	5,490	9,510	13,020	Velvets.....	180	against 180	1,110	680	206	452
White Shirtings.....	7,480	"	7,500	"	9,510	"	Velveteens.....	"	"	"	"	"	"
T-Cloths.....	6,380	"	5,490	"	5,010	"	Cotton Yarn.....	"	"	"	"	"	"
Drills, English.....	"	"	420	"	795	"	Camlets.....	1,040	pcs.	"	"	"	"
Jeans.....	150	"	250	"	150	"	Long Ellis.....	680	"	"	660	"	300
Sheetings, English.....	320	"	640	"	820	"	Lastings.....	500	"	"	680	"	600
Turkey Reds.....	"	"	"	"	"	"	Spanish Stripes.....	798	"	"	206	"	452

PIECE GOODS.

At Nie-kee, 3rd May—

Bombay T-Cloths.—8-lbs.—250 pieces; Indian £1.19½/19½.

Bombay Sheetings.—14-lbs.—150 pieces; Blue Man £2.22½.

White Shirtings.—Fine, 30 pieces; Man and Frog £2.29.

Muslins.—White.—200 pieces; Green 2 Lion £0.41.

Velvets.—22-in. Black, 180 pieces; Phoenix £0.10/10.1, Woman and Fish £0.10/05, Lion and Flag £0.10.8.75/90.

Printed T-Cloths.—278 pieces; Blue £0.84/1.12, and Blue and White Double Printed £1.25.

At E-teh-lee, 5th May—

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—1,000 pieces; Red Hawk £1.36½, Blue Banana A £1.37½/37½, Green Banana A £1.50½/50½ and Blue Musician £1.71½.

9.12-lbs.—250 pieces; Black Wildman £1.70/70½.

10-lbs.—1,900 pieces; Red Chong Yuen XXI £1.78½/79.

10½-lbs.—600 pieces; Red Chong Yuen XXX £1.79½/80.

11-lbs.—100 pieces; Blue Butterfly £2.24½.

T-Cloths.—8-lbs.—36-in., 100 pieces; Mandarin KK £1.52½, 8.12-lbs.—36-in., 400 pieces; Patckwa £1.57½/58.

Gentian Shirtings.—36-in., 50 pieces; Flying Horse £1.93.

Printed Dimities.—118 pieces; Assorted £0.87.

At Ta-koo, 6th May—

Grey Shirtings.—7-lbs.—750 pieces; Silver Steamboat £1.07½/09½.

8.4-lbs.—5,994 pieces; Blue Eagle £1.09/09½, Man, Horse and Spear £1.27/28½, Silver Steamer £1.45, Red Man and Elephant £1.50½, Blue Dragon £1.69½/68½ and Blue Fisherman £1.71½/71½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,650 pieces; Man and Horse M.T. No. 2 £1.20/20½, do. No. 1 £1.24/24½, Silver Steamboat £1.34/34½ and Silver Dragon £1.41½/41½.

8-lbs.—1,500 pieces; Man and Horse M.T. No. 2 £1.22½/23, do. No. 1 £1.33/33½, Silver Steamboat £1.40/40½, and Silver Dragon £1.63½/63½.

At E-ro, 7th May—

Grey Shirtings.—5-lbs.—500 pieces; Red Peacock £0.81/81½.

7-lbs.—350 pieces; Red Peacock £1.01½, Black Tea Caddy XX £1.15½.

8.4-lbs.—3,600 pieces; Black Tea Caddy XX £1.44/44½, Blue 2 Duck £1.42½, Blue 3 Duck £1.45½, Red Crab £1.45½/46 Blue Crab XX £1.60½/61½, Blue Bell XX £1.72½/72½, Blue Tea Caddy DDD £1.75½/75½, Blue 2 Tea Caddy £1.86/87.

10-lbs.—1,750 pieces; Black Crab £1.71/71½, Red Crab £1.85½/36, Blue Crab XX £1.96½/96½, Blue Bell £2.00½ and Blue Tea Caddy DDD £2.17½/17½.

11-lbs.—100 pieces; Blue Bell £2.20½.

12-lbs.—200 pieces; Blue Bell £2.26/27½.

White Shirtings.—64-reed—500 pieces; Red Tea Caddy £1.49.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,050 pieces; Red Peacock £1.00, Red Tea Caddy £1.17½/18½ and Blue do. £1.28.

8-lbs.—300 pieces; Red Tea Caddy £1.23½/23½.

At Yuen-fong, 8th May—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—500 pieces; Two Man £0.97½/97½.

7-lbs.—2,400 pieces; Blue Britannia £1.13/13½, Blue 4-Sister £1.23½/24, and Blue 3-Students £1.33.

8.4-lbs.—4,215 pieces; *House* (mildewed) \$1.20/30 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Two Men* \$1.28/33 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Britannia* \$1.39 $\frac{1}{2}$ /40 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue 4-Sister* \$1.46, *Blue 3-Students* \$1.44 $\frac{1}{2}$ /44 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Double Shield* \$1.49 $\frac{1}{2}$, and *Five Brothers* \$1.76/76 $\frac{1}{2}$.
 10-lbs.—2,400 pieces; *Blue Britannia* \$1.75 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Red do.* \$1.91 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Emperor's Birthday* (partly short lengths) \$1.84/95, *Red 3-Students* \$1.95 $\frac{1}{2}$ /96, and *Red 4-Sister A A* \$2.02.
 10.12-lbs.—200 pieces; *Painted Britannia* \$2.26.
 11-lbs.—1,000 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* \$2.26 $\frac{1}{2}$ /27 $\frac{1}{2}$.
 12-lbs.—720 pieces; *Soldier* \$2.37/37 $\frac{1}{2}$, and *Nine Lions* \$2.37 $\frac{1}{2}$.

White Shirts.—64-reed, 3,200 pieces; *House* bright \$1.50 $\frac{1}{2}$ /51, do. dull \$1.51 $\frac{1}{2}$ /51 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Double Lighthouse* bright \$1.51 $\frac{1}{2}$ /53 $\frac{1}{2}$ and dull \$1.51 $\frac{1}{2}$ /51 $\frac{1}{2}$.
 72-reed.—3,750 pieces; *White and Gold 3-Students* \$1.96, *Red 2 Sister* \$1.99 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Double Lighthouse* bright \$2.01 $\frac{1}{2}$ /01 $\frac{1}{2}$, do. dull \$1.97/97 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Gold Star*, bright \$2.16 $\frac{1}{2}$ and do. dull \$2.15.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—730 pieces; *Blue Lion* \$1.18 $\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Double Shield* \$1.20 and *Red 3-Students* \$1.29 $\frac{1}{2}$ /30.
 8-lbs.—650 pieces; *Blue Lion* \$1.28, and *Painted 3 Students* \$1.65 $\frac{1}{2}$ /66 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Jeans.—English, 8-lbs.—150 pieces; *Two Squirrel* \$1.79 $\frac{1}{2}$ /80.

Sheetings.—English.—14-lbs.—320 pieces; *Lion and Cloud* \$2.26 $\frac{1}{2}$ /27 and *Old Man Head* \$2.52 $\frac{1}{2}$ /53 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White.	Purple.	Black.	*Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid. "	Sales Pcs.
	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	T'ls.	
NIX-KEE, 3rd inst.													
S. St'p'cs, B.T.I., p.yd.	0.45 $\frac{1}{2}$ /45.3	0.42.7	0.43 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	0.39.4	...	...	...	...	0.42.85	...	0.44.1	
Sales, pcs. ...	60	6	12	.....	6	...	...	...	...	6*	...	47	132
" E'phant & Pot.	0.24.95	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.29.15	
Sales, pcs. ...	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.28.2*	24
2-TEH-LEE, 5th inst.													
Camlets, A.A.A., p.pc.	8.17 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.45	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	10*	30
" Fish (P.P.P.),	79.25	9.90	9.52 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.52 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.47 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	40	20	20	10*	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells, H.H., p.pc.	4.80/81	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sp. S'p'cs, H.H., p.yd.	0.46.2	.....	0.46 8/47 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	90	.....	30	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
" Fish, P.P.P., p.y.	0.41.1/41.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
" Horse Head	0.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ /37.6	.....	0.43	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	18	.....	12	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
" New Eagle p.y.	.....	.....	0.39 $\frac{1}{2}$ /39.55	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.39 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	.....	24	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	6*	30
E-wo, 7th inst.													
C'lets, Man Horse, p.p.	8.93	.....	8.88/91	9.10	8.97	...	...	...	...	...	8.67	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	100	.....	50	20*	20	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	200
" Bear, p.pc...	8.59	.....	8.39	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	30	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
" D'ble Deer	8.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ /09	.....	7.92 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	7.92 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	30	.....	10	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Long Ells, M.D.R.p.p.	4.64/4.66	0.46.2	.....	.....	.....	...	0.46.7	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	200	20	.....	.....	.....	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	240
" D'ble Phoenix	4.46/4.47 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" S'gle Phoenix	4.46	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
S. S'p'cs, S'gle Phoenix	0.39.1/39 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.41.6	0.39.7/40	0.44.6	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.39 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ...	120	12	108	12*	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	276
YUEN-YONG, 8th inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G., p.pc.	9.82 $\frac{1}{2}$ /85	10.00/02 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.77 $\frac{1}{2}$ /80	.....	10.40	...	...	...	9.62 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	9.02 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ...	120	50	50	.....	20	...	...	...	10	...	20	10*	280
" G.G.M., p.pc.	9.95	10.20	9.85	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	9.10	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	10	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	50
" S.S.H., p.pc.	9.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ /07 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.65/70	9.42 $\frac{1}{2}$ /50	.....	9.47 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	9.10	...	8.85	9.05	
Sales, pcs. ...	110	50	50	.....	30	...	...	...	10	...	10	20*	280
Long Ells, G.G.L., p.p.	4.82/84	.....	.....	.....	4.71	...	...	4.85	.....	...	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	140	.....	.....	.....	20*	...	...	20	.....	...	.....	.....	200
Lastings, G.G.R., p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	8.60/82 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	300	...	.....	.....	300
" F.F.R., p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	6.57 $\frac{1}{2}$ /55	...	.....	7.10	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	180	...	.....	20*	200
S. S'p'cs, T.T.B. p.yd.	0.46 $\frac{1}{2}$ /46 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.44 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.45 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	0.40 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	0.41 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.47	...	0.45 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.46 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ...	60	12	6	.....	6	...	...	6	6	...	6	24	126
JIN-KEE, 8th inst.													
Camlets, P.M., p.pc.	8.35	Ass'd.	8.27/55	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	10	.....	70	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Long Ells, U.U., p.pc.	4.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	20
" W.B., p.pc.	4.05	.....	.....	.....	4.65/55	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	.....	.....	40	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	60
Lastings, P.M., p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ass'd.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Mid. Cloth, U.U. p.pc.	.....	0.68 $\frac{1}{2}$ /72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10

† Last week should have been \$9.47 $\frac{1}{2}$ /50.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 7th May, 1890, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 97 to 102, both numbers inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

GOODS.	Ningpo.	Wanchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuh.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Shanghai.	Tientsin.	Swatow.	Fuzhou.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Huog.	Yokohama.	Cebu.	Local.	Others.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	19,595	535	24,805	1,170	2,700	43,850	17,925	8,015	6,055	100	250	500	...	...	1,450	11,000	390
T. Cloths, 32-in.	6,068	885	2,780	310	570	3,235	9,030	3,510	750	3,375	...	150	...	...	...	4,000	3,325
36-in.	2,830	...	170	...	460	120	...	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500	60
White Shirtings	2,680	50	3,560	350	650	17,155	3,310	6,798	750	110	...	...	...	...	...	4,700	600
Drills, English & Dutch	35	15	105	...	...	...	1,365	435	640	15	...	...	...	...	...	200	520
American	255	...	135	15	...	750	900	3,950	450	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	120
Jeans, English & Dutch	40	...	60	...	...	570	...	1,800	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
American	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	400	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Sheetings, English	680	...	2,600	420	410	2,120	3,320	1,360	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	540	440
American	680	...	...	...	...	...	3,170	10,815	19,240	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	1,430	30	36	746	200	50	664	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	230
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Dyed	...	...	90	...	100	...	50	80	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Chintzes	...	...	...	60	60	...	230	...	330	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	...
Printed T. Cloths	310	...	1,330	...	220	2,745	800	2,066	720	50	...	...	...	...	...	540	50
Printed Twills	60	...	80	60	...	120	424	...	619	...	...	...	...	...	...	240	140
Turkey Red Shirtings	100	92	462	200	450	1,801	3,050	1,151	1,537	330	...	...	...	...	...	500	150
Velvets	60	...	60	...	60	156	30	815	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	13
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	10	48	...	22	204	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Handkerchiefs	400	...	360	1,660	400	900	...	...	400	...	981	...	...	...	...	6,000	233
Muslins	100	...	600	100	...	600	1,300	...	200	...	...	6,400	...	...	2,200	400	1,020
Lenos & Balzarines	...	...	160	...	...	130	250	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	135	100	80
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	...	...	156	...	723	1,050	3,593	681	4,725	3	...	...	...	72	...	30	...
English	3	...	180	...	15	545	54	339	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	...	...	138	18	30	120	78	126	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Cotton	...	...	108	...	...	15	168	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Medium and Broad Cloths	...	...	12	...	314	20	...	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...
Camlets	...	...	70	70	90	550	90	110	80	30	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Long Ellis	...	...	40	80	20	400	60	80	280	...	300	...	80	...	...	60	20
Lastings	60	...	...	20	80	1,360	30	20	660	...	...	...	...	...	40	120	...
Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italian	170	...	1,183	90	160	2,632	2,127	3,091	1,308	...	...	...	...	...	...	600	370
Lastings, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Figured Orleans	...	...	40	...	...	130	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
Cotton Flannels	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Lead in Pigs	481	...	242	64	989	...	25	...	310	1,678	...	...	...	...	1,052	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	105	...	3,217	...	...	...	1,134	84	126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCK AT DATE AND MARKED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURN, OF 1ST JAN., 1890.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1890.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1890.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 9th May, 1889.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	138,340	2,302,127	2,136,360	83,354	2,224,246	2,017,285	1,579,364	840,244
T. Cloths, 32-in.	37,988	485,684	428,223	20,346	381,372	420,523	240,961	338,570
36-in.	7,320	98,876	128,400	2,964	84,447	194,434	166,164	207,789
White Shirtings	40,713	691,451	742,048	31,414	650,878	653,542	378,335	488,735
Drills, English and Dutch	3,330	82,041	115,934	2,565	50,566	159,494	165,936	305,765
American	6,725	68,258	108,425	3,480	80,295	243,540	78,777	138,130
Jeans, English and Dutch	2,810	56,435	54,617	3,757	86,706	29,657	50,701	17,060
American	640	2,760	640	...	3,000	...	240	...
Sheetings, English	12,890	289,342	198,108	10,930	174,463	126,699	121,343	431,955
Am.	34,065	322,568	388,560	14,540	277,080	294,530	294,147	599,655
Dyed Shirtings	3,536	43,113	69,105	3,592	36,699	38,191	?	14,950
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White	100	2,074	1,247	300	1,210	1,006	519	809
Dyed	620	18,049	13,619	...	5,694	8,078	7,988	1,839
Chintzes	890	30,092	100,277	1,205	20,814	54,895	13,654	197,169
Printed T. Cloths	8,831	161,088	62,784	9,478	153,372	23,801	506,950	...
Printed Twills	1,743	34,091	37,532	...	34,636	23,976	44,728	83,786
Turkey Red Shirtings	9,883	159,083	164,660	12,936	95,213	132,406	42,718	146,933
Velvets	1,314	14,542	10,376	302	14,218	7,554	13,944	20,069
Velveteens	344	4,985	4,732	...	1,368	4,889	6,360	8,776
Handkerchiefs	11,534	175,637	178,975	10,270	126,073	111,454	159,846	182,354
Muslins	12,920	95,334	119,923	1,620	39,781	47,632	130,821	166,668
Lenos & Balzarines	975	19,499	...	882	24,101	...	21,076	...
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	11,333	119,450	65,585	9,021	122,633	58,460	37,821	8,664
English	1,184	16,793	15,509	1,383	10,638	11,950	1,186	13,508
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	584	14,085	13,110	636	12,287	14,240	6,350	20,645
Cotton	351	4,781	...	240	3,719	...	5,517	...
Medium and Broad Cloths	496	8,210	6,498	105	2,269	7,143	14,690	29,145
Camlets	1,190	30,059	32,127	1,524	21,482	36,698	27,553	25,381
Long Ellis	1,420	24,198	25,136	1,020	20,040	26,120	25,495	18,624
Lastings	2,390	34,605	39,991	513	20,875	39,781	45,289	65,741
Crape	...	350	840	...	398	600	746	640
Lastings, Cotton & Italian	11,731	231,134	192,017	11,093	156,438	91,844	247,829	391,941
Lastings, Plain	150	840	1,590	...	1,539	1,945	1,548	895
Figured Orleans	370	6,787	11,699	...	4,520	8,037	15,990	26,832
Cotton Flannels	210	3,282	...	1	1,257	...	2,845	...
Lead in Pigs	4,841	38,743	69,413	4,283	27,962	88,873	37,416	59,417
Iron—Nail Rod	4,666	36,059	59,221	...	58,596	57,760	146,523	119,671

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Chingco, Eze, Saghalien, Antenor, Singan, Rohilla, Glenfallech, Parthia, and Glaucus. Import Cargoes declared during interval: Thames, Patroclus, Bayern, Kueiyang.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 6½d. a 4s. 7d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 7½d. a 4s. 7½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 7½d. a 4s. 7½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8½d., 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.79; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.90, 6 months' sight 5.93. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 4.75. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 87½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 30 days' sight, 28½. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, 73½; Private Bills, 30 days' sight, 72½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 31½. Calcutta, Rs. 31½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, £214.00. Silver Bars, £111.15. Mexican dollars, £73.60. Copper Cash, 1,360. Native Interest, mace 2.

SHARES.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—No business has been reported. Shares are obtainable at 198 per cent. prem. GAS.—Shanghai Gas shares have been sold at £200.

MARINE INSURANCE.—North Chinas have been sold at £330. Yangtze Insurance Association, Ltd., in Liquidation.—The Liquidators' statement of accounts for 9 months to 30th September last were presented and passed at a meeting of shareholders held on the 7th instant. The net Premiums for the term amount to £181,994.14, and the Losses and Claims to £131,028.14. The balance of Underwriting account amounts to £2,798.83, and is carried to Reserve Fund, which stands at £178,493.05. The expenses absorb 26.47 per cent. of the Premiums, against 22.64 per cent. in 1888. Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited.—A statement of the position and working of the new Association, for 6 months to 31st March last, was presented to the shareholders at the meeting of 7th May. The net Premiums amount to £186,664.88, and the net claims amount to £109,450.39. The charges are £49,391.53, equal to 22.16 per cent. of the Premiums. The balance carried forward as estimated profit is £27,882.96. The Reserve Fund stands at £510,617.59.—Shares have been sold at £88.50.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Hongkongs have been sold at £365.

WHARFS.—Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares have been placed at £230 and £240.

MINING.—Business is reported in Sheridans at £242½, in Mendotas at £242½, and in Selamas at \$3.75.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Business has been done in Shanghai Electric shares at £92, in Shanghai Land Investment shares at £32½, in Major Brothers shares at £50, and in Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares \$1,000.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.	
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.	Tails.
Banks.										
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	£125	£125	\$4,600,000	\$141,310.47	31 Dec. 89	* £2	24 Feb. 90	1962 pr.	270.10
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	54,700	£10	£10	£170,416.46	22,511.12.11	31 Mar. 89	* 3 %	18 Feb. 90	£11.0.0	50.29
Shipping.										
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£5,172.66	31 Dec. 89	* £2	10 Oct. 89	...	75.00
Iodo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	22,445.16.10	£1,606.14.9	31 Dec. 88	+ £2.98	12 July 89	...	30.00
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£43,000.00	31 Dec. 89	* 5 %	11 Jan. 90	...	400.00
China Shippers' Mutual S.N. Co.	7,662	£20	£13	£52,000.00	£3,495.11.2	31 Dec. 88	* £1.79	5 Dec. 89	£14.0.0	64.46
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T £50	T £50	.....	£18,726.51	31 Dec. 89	* 2 %	27 Feb. 90	T £45.00	47.25
Docks.										
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,800.00	£226.42	31 Dec. 89	* £12	16 Jan. 90	...	400.00
Footing Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	£150,388.31	31 Dec. 89	* 5 %	14 Jan. 88	...	40.00
Gas.										
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£90,000.00	£3,531.59	31 Dec. 89	* 6 %	7 Jan. 90	...	200.00
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£20,473.72	£39.14	31 Dec. 89	* 6 %	28 Feb. 90	...	151.50
Insurance (Marine.)										
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	£25	£650,000.00	\$931,343.91	30 Apr. 89	+ \$5	9 Sept. 89	£70.00	51.10
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£50	£320,000.00	\$552,151.12	31 Dec. 89	£20.25	22 Apr. 90	...	330.00
Union Ind. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	£250	£25	£732,500.00	\$486,216.41	30 June 89	+ £7	16 Oct. 89	£100.00	73.00
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	6,943	£100	£100	£510,617.59	.....	31 Mar. 90	+ \$6 %	10 Mar. 90	...	88.50
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	£1,000	£200	.....	\$337,505.29	31 Dec. 89	- 3 %	2 Apr. 88	...	nominal
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	£250	£50	\$417,000.00	\$493,203.86	30 Sep. 89	+ 10 %	7 Jan. 90	£125.00	91.25
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	30,000	£100	£20	\$80,000.00	\$184,054.65	31 Dec. 89	* 5 %	15 Apr. 90	\$21.50	15.70
Insurance (Fire.)										
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	£250	£50	\$1,056,049	\$303,349.20	31 Dec. 89	£23	4 Mar. 90	\$365.00	266.45
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	£100	£20	\$700,000	\$184,085.53	31 Dec. 89	+ \$6	5 Mar. 90	\$84.50	61.68
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	£100	£20	\$90,000.00	\$100,818.08	31 Dec. 89	+ 7 %	17 Mar. 90	\$18.00	13.14
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd.	29,176	£100	£20	\$11,875.91	\$132,507.27	31 Dec. 88	+ £2	27 Apr. 89	\$15.00	10.95
Wharfs.										
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	\$89,089.75	\$1,560.37	31 Dec. 89	* £8	18 Feb. 90	...	240.00
Brit's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	£50	£50	\$10,000.00	.....	31 Oct. 89	* 34 %	29 Nov. 89	...	34.00
Footing Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100	£12,000	£96.65	31 Dec. 89	+ 23 %	8 Feb. 90	...	80.00
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited.	17,000	£50	£50	.....	\$2,755.25	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	6 Mar. 89	\$82.00	£9.86
Mining.										
Sheridan Mining Co.	3,000	£100	£100	£46,430.85	\$10,310.02	31 Jan. 90	£6	31 Aug. 89	...	242.50
Mendota Mining Co.	3,000	£100	£100	£26,107.90	\$33,302.33	31 Jan. 90	£3	31 Dec. 87	...	242.50
Stauffer Mining Co.	5,000	G. \$100	G. \$100	.....	.....	.....	\$2	.....	...	150.00
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.	120,000	\$5	\$2	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$3.75	2.74
Do.	20,000	\$5	\$5	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$6.00	4.38
Cargo Boats.										
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£3,003.47	£2,306.56	31 Dec. 89	* 10 %	6 Mar. 90	...	172.50
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	£2,000.00	£3,003.31	31 Dec. 89	+ 4 %	27 Feb. 90	...	50.00
Miscellaneous.										
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	£22,966.51	£2,193.94	31 Dec. 89	* 5 %	21 Mar. 90	£34.00.0	160.00
Do. New Shares.	1,200	£20	£15	.....	.....	.....	* 5 %	21 Mar. 90	£29.0.0	136.47
Pernik Sugar Cultivat. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£5,220.59	31 Dec. 89	None.	.....	...	30.00
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£15,340.12	28 Feb. 90	+ £2	28 Apr. 90	...	26.00
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	667	£100	£100	\$5,000.00	\$1,161.44	31 Dec. 89	* \$5	11 Mar. 90	\$125	91.25
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	300	£100	£100	.....	£186.98	31 Oct. 89	+ £7	28 Nov. 89	...	92.00
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	£50	£30	.....	£6,906.18	31 Dec. 89	None.	.....	...	32.50
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	£100	£100	.....	£8,657.30	31 Dec. 89	None.	.....	£105.00	76.65
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	£50	£50	.....	£756.79	31 Dec. 89	+ £4	28 Mar. 90	...	53.00
Major Brothers, Limited	6,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	* £2.50	1 May 90	...	50.00
Y'hama Engin. & Iron Work, Ltd.	1,300	£100	£100	£17,500.00	\$1,185.66	31 May 89	* \$5	30 Nov. 89	\$125.00	91.25
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.	130	\$500	\$500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1,000.00	730.00
Shanghai Lankat do., Ltd.	1,600	£100	£40	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	£60.00	£60.00
Trust & Loan Co. of China, etc.	99,875	£10	£12	£40,000	.....	.....	First year.	.....	£115.0	7.98
Do. Founders	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£75.0.0	349.51
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Limited	500	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	...	£30.00
	1,500	£50	£30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1888	£45,000.00	£45,000.00	£100	7 %	Dec. & June.	£105.00
Do. 1885	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	£100	7 %	Do.	£105 nom.
Do. 1888	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£100	6 %	Do.	£103
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£300,000	£204,000	£100	7 %	Quarterly	£106(a)
Lyceum Theatre Debentures	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£25	4 %	7 Jan. '89	£11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1884 B	\$1,394,700.14	\$418,410.04	\$500	8 %	30th June.	\$505 (a)
Do. do. 1884 C	\$1,594,700.14	\$1,036,820.08	\$500	8 %	15th Oct.	\$505 (a)
Do. do. 1886 E	\$787,200.00	\$737,720.00	\$250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	\$290.00(a)

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. ¶ Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.